





THE LIBRARY OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTH CAROLINA  
AT CHAPEL HILL



THE COLLECTION OF  
NORTH CAROLINIANA

---

C282  
N87c  
Vol.3-4  
2007-2008



UNIVERSITY OF N.C. AT CHAPEL HILL



00036741133

FOR USE ONLY IN  
THE NORTH CAROLINA COLLECTION

---













Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2014

<https://archive.org/details/nccatholicsseria2007cath>



THE MAGAZINE

OF THE CATHOLIC

DIOCESE OF

RALEIGH

www.NCCatholics.org

ya que usted lo pregunta...

"¿Qué puedo hacer con la duda?"

since you asked

Dear NCC: "What do I do about doubt?"

January/February 2007

\$2.00

# NCCatholics

## parish poll

What would you  
bring to Jesus?

## theology 101

Was Jesus really human  
or did he just appear that way?

# Religious life, in our own words

Eight religious sisters share insights  
from 390 years of faithful service

## your marriage matters

He says: the romance  
has fizzled.  
She says: he may be right.  
What do they do?

## spiritual fitness

How do we deal with tragedy and  
pain in our lives?

## parish profile

"We Care"  
St. Anthony of Padua,  
Southern Pines

Letter from  
the Bishop  
**SPECIAL SECTION**  
Annual Financial Report  
for the Diocese of  
Raleigh



**M**any years ago, a college philosophy professor explained to me how to become a millionaire. "Just focus all your efforts on that goal and no other," he said. "The reason most people don't become millionaires is because they aren't willing to sacrifice everything else to do it."

I don't think he was saying that was the *only* way to get rich. I know he didn't think wealth was a particularly worthy objective. But he was making a point about faithfulness. When one goal matters to us above all others, and we devote all our efforts to achieving that goal, we will succeed. That goal may be an earthly one like money or pleasure, or an eternal one. Mother Teresa of Calcutta famously said, "God has not called us to be successful. He has called us to be faithful." In terms of her real, eternal goal, however, Mother Teresa was definitely a success.

**Mother Teresa of Calcutta famously said, "God has not called us to be successful. He has called us to be faithful." In terms of her real, eternal goal, however, Mother Teresa was definitely a success.**

This month NCC features eight religious women whose goal for many decades has been service in this world and salvation in the next. They are celebrating anniversaries this year, but there are many others, in our diocese and throughout the world, whose lives have similarly demonstrated faithfulness to the Lord's call and confidence in his care and assistance. And while the jubilarians' example – nearly four centuries of ministry – can inspire us with a certain amount of awe, they show no more than the same faithfulness to which we are all called: constant attention and conformity to God's will and unswerving confidence in his care. That way of living will lead us in the end to the success that matters most.

And lest you think that this faithfulness is a nose-to-the-grindstone, grin-and-bear-it kind of existence, read what these Sisters have to say about their lives. Their

words communicate so clearly the adventure, the peace and the joy they have found through serving others.

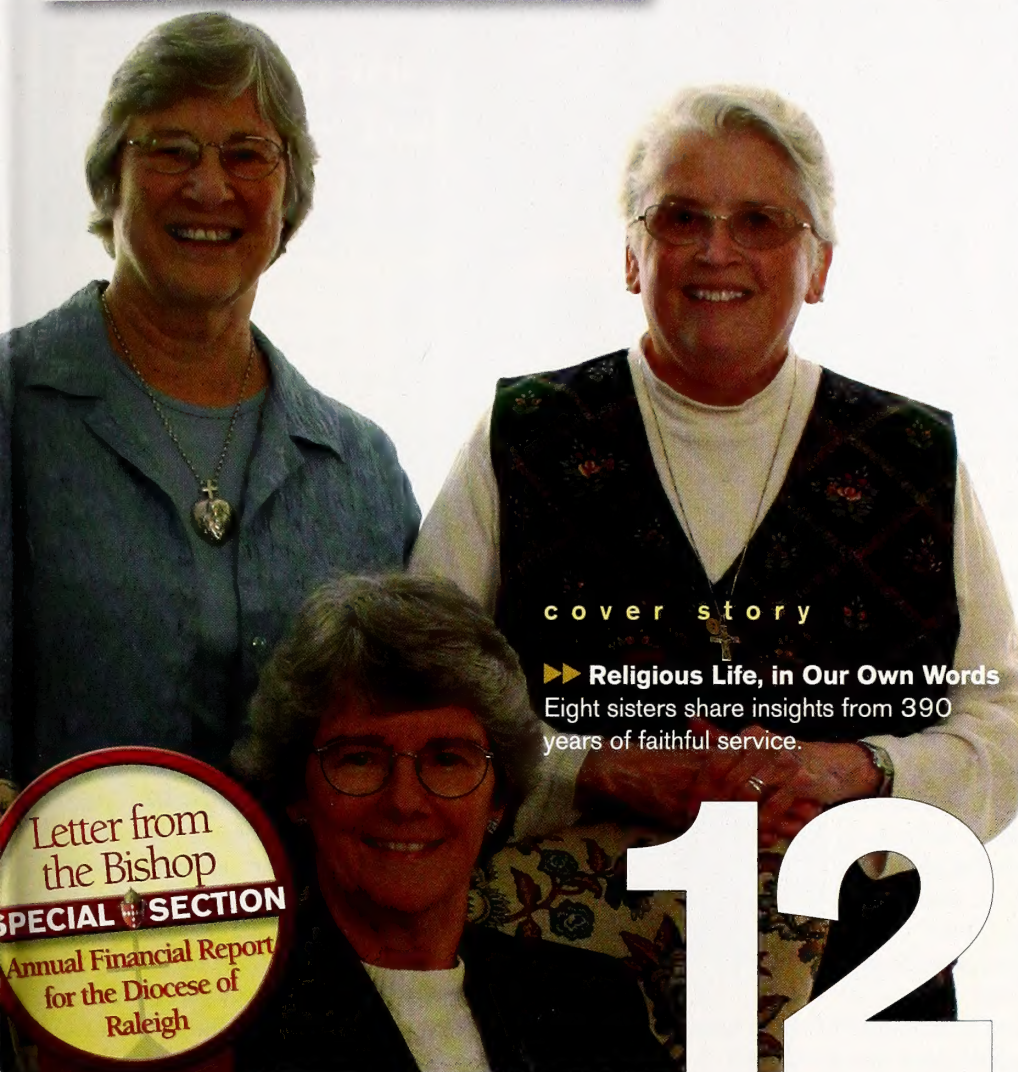
In 2006, our issues were loosely themed around the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. As we start a new calendar year, *NC Catholics* will be considering the "Fruits of the Holy Spirit." Do you remember them? There are 12: faithfulness, of course, and also charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, modesty, self-control and chastity. If you know of stories or people from our diocese who exemplify these qualities, I'd love to hear from you at 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606 or [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).

– Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.

**Who wants to  
be a millionaire?**







## cover story

►► **Religious Life, in Our Own Words**  
Eight sisters share insights from 390 years of faithful service.

# 12

Letter from the Bishop  
**SPECIAL SECTION**  
Annual Financial Report for the Diocese of Raleigh

## Annual Financial Report

### ►► Letter from the Bishop

Bishop Burbidge: "Our diocese has been graced with many blessings...."

# 29

## 16 el hispano católico

### Una bienvenida sencilla

El Centro de Catholic Worker (Trabajador Católico) en Silk Hope es un oasis de hospitalidad en el condado rural de Chatham.

— Por Rich Reece/Fotografía de Scott Langley



## 18 Ya que usted lo pregunta...

"¿Qué puedo hacer con la duda? Quiero creer en Dios y en Jesús pero algunas veces siento que mi fe vacila."

— Terry Jackson

## 19 Obispo Burbidge

Orar, Escribir, Marchar a favor de la Vida.

— Obispo Michael F. Burbidge



# inside

what you'll get out of this issue

### since you asked ...

**6** Dear NCC: "What do I do about doubt? I want to believe in God and Jesus, but sometimes I feel as if my faith is wavering." — Terry Jackson

### Parish Poll

**7** Gifts for Jesus: What would you bring to Jesus?



### theology 101

**8** Was Jesus really human or did he just appear that way? A conversation in Christology with seminary professors. — Elizabeth Solsburg

### voices in our church

**10** Pray, write, march for life

— Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

**11** From slave to priest

— Msgr. Thomas Hadden

**11** El camino del compartir

— Padre Fernando Torres

### your marriage matters

**20** He says: the romance has fizzled.

She says: he may be right.

What do they do? — Deborah McCormack

### spiritual fitness

**22** Why is this happening to me? Is God punishing me? How do we deal with tragedy and pain in our lives?

— Father Bill Ashbaugh

### parish profile

**28** "We care": St. Anthony of Padua, Southern Pines — Rich Reece



# NC Catholics

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
Director of Communications

January/February 2007 • Vol. 3 : Issue 1

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Terry Jackson  
Father Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Irene Gonzalez  
TRANSLATOR

Denmark Photography (cover)  
Bill Fraser  
Hutzler Photography  
Scott Langley  
Paul McInerney  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Enomhen Odigie  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Jillane Job  
SUBSCRIPTIONS/SECRETARY

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Derek Melot  
PROOFREADING

Elizabeth Johnson  
Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Cheval Breggins  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@rldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™. Catholic Diocese of Raleigh. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.



Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
**919.821.9730**



Jacques Mistrot and Marie T. Hilliard testified before the NC House Select Committee on Stem Cell Research.

## Stem Cells: Catholic experts educate legislators

▶▶ On Nov. 20, the North Carolina House Select Committee on Stem Cell Research heard Dr. Jacques Mistrot, a thoracic surgeon and fellow of the Westchester Institute (and a parishioner at Our Lady of Lourdes in Raleigh), and Dr. Marie T. Hilliard, director of bioethics and public policy with the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, explain the scientific and ethical issues associated with embryonic stem cell research. (Mistrot was featured in the November 2005 issue of NCC.)

The committee was formed to study the issues related to House Bill 632, which would permit embryonic stem cell research under limited circumstances and appropriate tax funds to the health and wellness trust fund for allocation as stem cell research grants.

HB 632 was introduced in the last biennium of the North Carolina General Assembly. It was sent to the House Health Committee, chaired by Rep. Thomas Wright. Wright referred HB 632 to a study committee chaired by Rep. Earl Jones, sponsor of HB 632. The committee was directed to make a recommendation for the 2007-08 session of the General Assembly by Dec. 31, 2006.

The Nov. 20 meeting was the fourth of six hearings scheduled. All invited speakers at the three previous meetings have promoted embryonic stem cell research funding. Interested members of the public were permitted to speak only at the end of the second meeting, in April, for three to four minutes each. At that meeting Dr. Mistrot, as well as Elizabeth Wickham, executive director of LifeTree, and Claire Schweitzer, respect life chair of St. Bernadette Church in Fuquay-Varina, also gave brief presentations to explain their opposition to embryonic stem cell research.

At the recent hearing, the speakers were granted 20 minutes each. Mistrot began with an explanation of the status of stem cell research in the world today, including the potential through nuclear reprogramming to create "embryonic-like" stem cells without destroying existing embryos. Much of what researchers are promising from embryonic stem cells is exaggerated, Mistrot explained. There are no current clinical treatments in humans from these stem cells, he said, and the future for such treatments is murky and risky. Adult stem

cells, on the other hand, are currently effective in treating more than 70 conditions. Questioned by Jones on how he thought funding should be allocated, Mistrot said the bottom line on funded research should be that "no embryos are destroyed."

Hilliard, who holds a doctorate in Canon Law, and is also an active registered nurse and a colonel in the Army Reserve, addressed the ethical and moral implications of stem cell research from the standpoint of natural law. Recalling a saying of her mother's, "Sanctity is sanity," she spoke against technology and ethics that, in the name of one good, the possibility of physical healing, violate a greater good, the sanctity of human life.

## Bishop Burbidge to march for life

▶▶ On Jan. 21, Bishop Burbidge will travel to Washington, D.C., for the annual March for Life. At 8 p.m. he will participate in the Vigil Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. On Jan. 22, there will be a Mass at the main altar of the Basilica for the North Carolina delegation. Bishop Burbidge will be the principal celebrant, and Bishop Peter Jugis of Charlotte will be the homilist and principal concelebrant. After Mass, the North Carolina delegation will travel by bus to the Mall for staging, and the March for Life will take place from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

## Bishop to referee hoops contest

▶▶ On Jan. 5 at 4:30 p.m., in the gym at Cardinal Gibbons High School, seminarians for the Diocese of Raleigh will play a basketball game against students from St. Thomas More Academy. Bishop Burbidge will referee. The game is open to the public.



## Executed for his faith – twice

### Saint Sebastian

#### Birthplace:

Narbonne, Gaul

#### Feast Day: Jan. 20

**Patron of athletes, soldiers, police and physicians**

#### Claim to Fame:

According to tradition, Sebastian was born in the third century. He attended school in Milan, Italy, as a boy. When he was a young man, Sebastian became concerned about the persecution of Christians. Hoping to find opportunities to encourage them, Sebastian joined the Roman army in 283. While keeping his own Christianity a secret from army leaders, he discreetly converted many Romans. Sebastian also covertly urged wavering Christians to remain true to their faith as the threat of persecution escalated.

**Best quote:** Although we have no record of Sebastian's words, it is said that he appeared in a vision to a Christian woman named Lucina. When she learned of Sebastian's martyrdom, she recovered his body and had it properly buried in the catacombs, an underground Christian cemetery beneath the city of Rome.

**How he died:** When Sebastian's faith was eventually discovered, he was sentenced to death by Emperor Diocletian. Tied to a stake, Sebastian was shot with arrows. His executioners left him for dead, but he survived. A Christian widow named Irene, who had come to bury Sebastian, nursed him back to health instead. Undeterred by his previous suffering, Sebastian confronted Diocletian and denounced his atrocities against Christianity. The emperor was surprised to see Sebastian alive, but the ruler did not repent. Instead, he ordered Sebastian to be beaten to death with clubs, and his body thrown into a sewer.

**Prayer:** *Dear Saint Sebastian, you chose to be a soldier of Christ and dared to spread the faith – for which you were condemned to die. May we have the same strength of faith. Amen.* – Jan Rynearson



## Ejecutado por causa de su fe - dos veces

### San Sebastián

**Lugar de nacimiento:** Narbona, Galia

**Día del Santo:** 20 de enero

**Patrón de los Atletas, Soldados, Policías y Médicos**

#### Lo que lo hizo famoso:

De acuerdo a la tradición, Sebastián nació en el siglo tercero. Cuando era niño asistió a la escuela en Milán. Siendo joven le comenzó a preocupar la persecución de los Cristianos. Deseando encontrar oportunidades para alentarlos, en el año 283, Sebastián se alistó en el ejército romano. Mientras que guardaba su propio cristianismo como un secreto para los superiores del ejército, él discretamente convertía a muchos romanos. Cuando las amenazas de persecución se intensificaron, Sebastián encubiertamente instó a los cristianos que flaqueaban a que se mantuvieran fieles a la fe cristiana.

#### Su mejor cita:

Aunque no tenemos documentación de las palabras de Sebastián, se dice que él se le apareció en una visión a una mujer cristiana llamada Lucina. Cuando se enteró del martirio de Sebastián, ella rescató su cuerpo y lo enterró apropiadamente en las catacumbas, un cementerio subterráneo debajo de la ciudad de Roma.

#### Forma en la que murió:

Cuando finalmente se descubrió la verdadera fe de Sebastián, el emperador Dioclesiano lo condenó a muerte. Atado a una estaca, le lanzaron flechas. Sus verdugos lo dieron por muerto, pero Sebastián sobrevivió. Una viuda cristiana llamada Irene que había venido a enterrarlo, lo cuidó hasta que se repuso. Sin dejarse intimidar por los sufrimientos anteriores, Sebastián encaró a Dioclesiano y denunció sus atrocidades contra el Cristianismo. El emperador se sorprendió de ver a Sebastián vivo, pero no se arrepintió. En cambio, ordenó que lo apalearan hasta matarlo y que arrojaran su cuerpo en una alcantarilla.

#### Oración:

*Querido San Sebastián, elegiste ser soldado de Cristo y te atreviste a divulgar la fe del Rey de Reyes por lo que te condenaron a muerte. Haz que tengamos tu misma fortaleza en la fe. Amén.* – Escrito por Transline USA.



**"What do I do about doubt? I want to believe in God and Jesus, but sometimes I feel as if my faith is wavering."**

**W**hen I read your question, I was immediately reminded of the beautiful story in Mark's Gospel, where a man brought his son, who was possessed by an evil spirit, to Jesus to be healed. The father asked Jesus, "If you can do anything, take pity on us and help us." "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes." Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

Like the man in the Gospel, all of us struggle with "unbelief"...with doubt. This is why we frequently find ourselves having to make an "act of faith." I think the time many of us have a doubt about the meaning of life and have to make an act of faith is at a funeral Mass. A few years ago, I was at a crowded funeral Mass at St. Francis of Assisi in Raleigh to celebrate the life and death of a little girl, an only child, killed in a car accident. I sat in the pew with the small casket just a few feet from me as the presider prayed: "Lord God, from whom human sadness is never hidden, You know the burden of grief that we feel at the loss of this child. As we mourn her passing from this life, comfort us with the knowledge that she lives now in your loving embrace. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever." Then the whole congregation responded with a thunderous "AMEN!"

I remember thinking, "Wow...what an incredible act of faith that 'Amen' was!" With that "Amen" we were saying with one voice that in spite of our doubts and fears, we believe that there is a God, there is a life after death, and this little girl will live forever. We said a resounding yes to the words of St. John Chrysostom: "She whom you love and lose is no longer where she was before. She is now wherever you are." I left that funeral with my faith renewed. That is what we are called to do for each other at every Mass. We come together with all our doubts, fears and hopes, we lift each other up with our prayer and song, and we charge out of church determined to try again to be more faith-full at work and at home.

It is important for me to remember that faith is a gift. It sounds like you have been blessed with the gift of faith. It is also equally important to understand that every act of faith, like every act of love, involves a decision. If we loved or believed only when we "felt like it," neither our faith nor our love would be very impressive and would give little witness on behalf of the Jesus whom we know and love.

Let me close by noting two paragraphs (164 and 165) from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* that address the issue of faith and doubt. You might find them helpful.

*Now, however, "we walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor 5:7); we perceive God as "in a mirror, dimly" and only "in part" (1 Cor 13:12). Even though enlightened by Him in whom it believes, faith is often lived in darkness and can be put to the test. The world we live in often seems very far from the one promised us by faith. Our experiences of evil and*

*58) in sharing the darkness of her son's suffering and death; and to so many others: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith" (Heb 12:1-2).*

Thank you for your thoughtful question.

Know you are in my thoughts and prayers. I wish you peace. ☩

— Terry Jackson, D. Min., CSW, is diocesan director of evangelization and catechesis.

**Like the man in the Gospel, all of us struggle with "unbelief"...with doubt. This is why we frequently find ourselves having to make an "act of faith."**

**dear NCC**  
**This month with Msgr. Terry Jackson**

*suffering, injustice and death, seem to contradict the good news; they can shake our faith and become a temptation against it.*

*It is then we must turn to the witnesses of faith: to Abraham, who "in hope...believed against hope" (Rom 4:18); to the Virgin Mary, who, in "her pilgrimage of faith," walked into the "night of faith" (LG*



► Send your questions to: "Since you asked..." 715 Nazareth St. Raleigh, NC 27606. Or: [reesce@raldioc.org](mailto:reesce@raldioc.org)



## "Give me your tired, your poor..."

What year did Ellis Island open?

▶▶ Ellis Island opened its doors to immigrants, igniting the melting pot of America and eventually processing more than 20 million people from foreign countries, on **Jan. 1, New Year's Day of WHAT YEAR?**



▶▶ As an advocate of peace, Pope Benedict XV once said on the subject of war, "I should regret if any of my clergy should take sides in this conflict. It is desirable that we pray for the cessation of the war without dictating to Almighty God in what way it should end." After an eight-year reign, Pope Benedict XV died on **Jan. 22, WHAT YEAR?**

▶▶ Amelia Earhart Putnam was the first woman to fly alone across the Atlantic Ocean in 1932, but she was the first person to fly solo from California to Hawaii on **Jan. 11, WHAT YEAR?**

Answers: 1892, 1922, 1935

## Gifts for Jesus

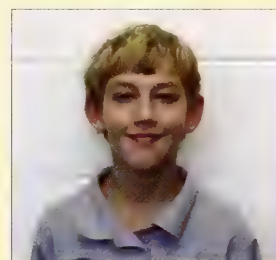
What would you bring to Jesus?

We asked sixth-graders from Our Lady of Lourdes School in Raleigh: **In the Bible, the Wise Men brought gifts to the baby Jesus. If you could, what gift would you bring Jesus today?**



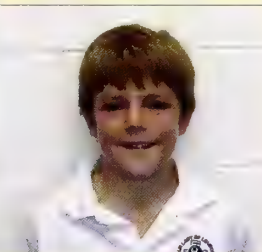
**Adonna**

I would give him my baby blanket to keep him warm on the long, cold nights.



**Matt**

I would bring Jesus a car, so he could go around and experience life.



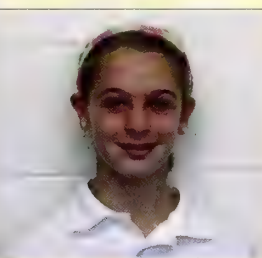
**Phillipe**

I would be Jesus' servant and give up my life to do his will.



**Eric**

I would bring him my love.



**Wynn**

I would bring baby Jesus a crib, because that manger with straw must itch and the animals might want it back!



**Katie**

I would bring Jesus a small pin that says 'Katie loves me' and I would have a pin that says 'Jesus loves me' so we could have each other forever.

WASHINGTON THEOLOGICAL UNION

# ANSWER

to your prayers

Summer  
masters  
degrees

Convenient  
for your life



## COME & SEE

<http://summer.wtu.edu>



6896 Laurel St., NW  
Washington, DC 20012  
800-334-9922 x5210  
[come&see@wtu.edu](mailto:come&see@wtu.edu)

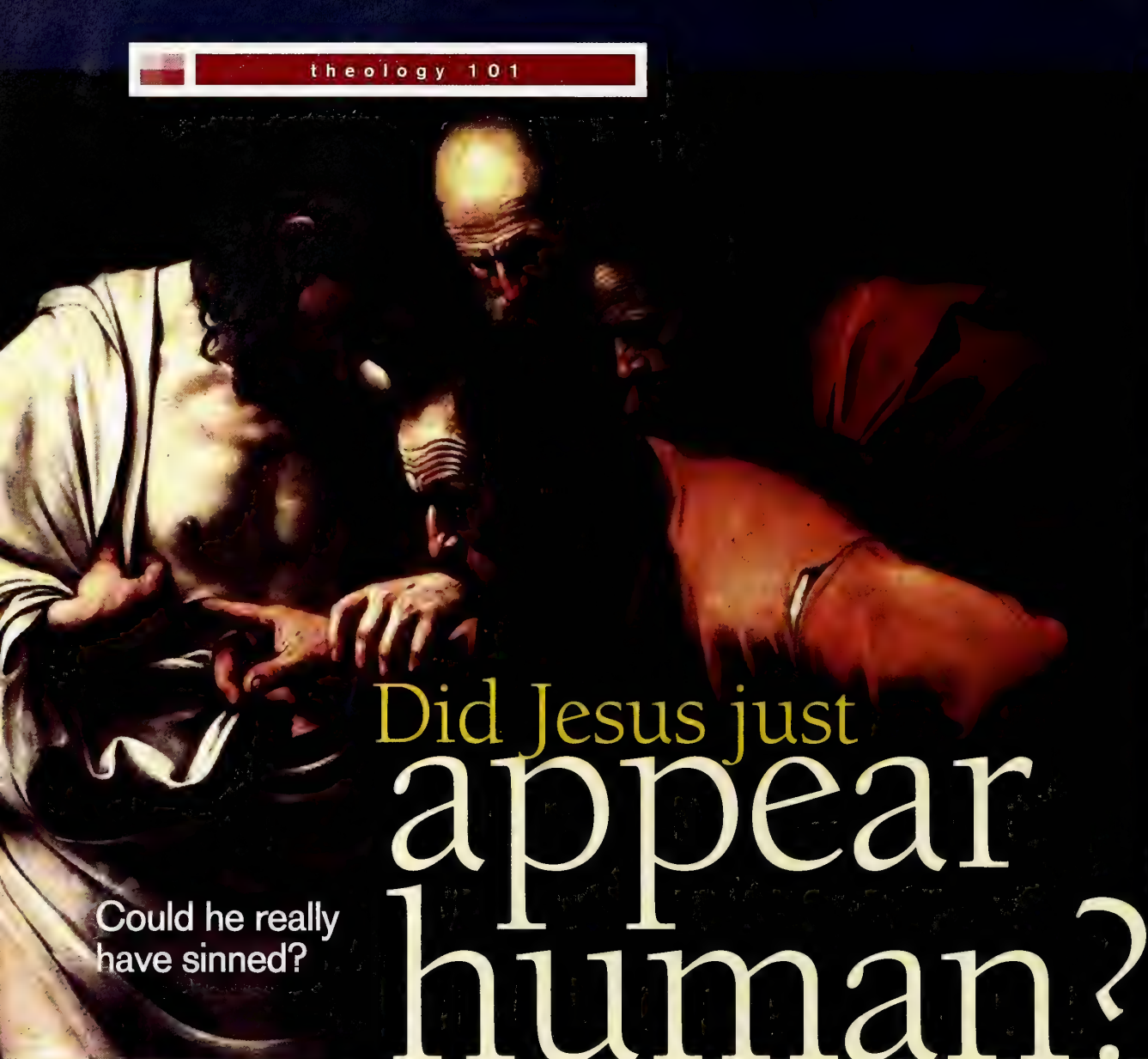
Three summer sessions:

- ♦ June 13 - July 3
- ♦ July 9 - July 27
- ♦ August 1 - August 17

- ♦ Designed for high school teachers, youth or campus ministers, DREs, pastoral associates
- ♦ Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies and Master of Theological Studies
- ♦ Outstanding faculty
- ♦ Financial aid available

A CATHOLIC GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY





Could he really have sinned?

# Did Jesus just appear human?

**T**his year, *NCCatholics* is exploring Christology – the study of Jesus Christ. We asked several eminent seminary professors some questions about Jesus. Their answers are enlightening and thought-provoking.

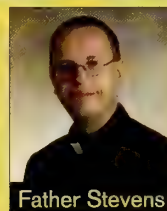
## Meet the professors



Father Acklin



Father Muller



Father Stevens

► **Father Thomas Acklin** is on the faculty of St. Vincent Abbey in Latrobe, Pa. He is a graduate of Duquesne University, St. Vincent Seminary, The Catholic University of Louvain and Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Institute.

► **Father Earl Muller** is on the faculty at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. He formerly taught at Marquette University in Wisconsin.

► **Father Gladstone Stevens** is on the faculty of St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.

**FAITH: Was Jesus really human or did he just appear that way?**

**Father Muller:** Jesus was fully human. One of the most important things in the early church was the testimony of the bodily resurrection of Christ. That is crucial in terms of grounding Christ's humanity, which was not something illusory – it could not be taken up and put aside. Rather, it was a permanent part of Christ's reality.

**Father Stevens:** It is basic to our faith that Jesus didn't simply appear to be human. Time and again, there were affirmations of his genuine humanity. Even the Gospel of John, which is so often concerned with Jesus' divinity, points out that Jesus



theologian  
of the month

**Irenaeus**  
(c. 130-202)

► **Irenaeus** was the bishop of Lugdunum in Gaul (Lyons, France). He is believed to be Greek and was a disciple of Polycarp.

► **Irenaeus' theology** was centrally concerned with the unity of God, as opposed to the Gnostic divisions of God's nature.

► **Irenaeus taught** that God created the world, has a plan for it and that humanity must mature into its fullness as images of God.

► **He articulated Jesus as the Logos, or Word,** and believed that salvation history reached its highest point with Christ. Irenaeus is credited with being the first to list the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John as divinely inspired, and he is known for his work, *Against Heresies*.



Heresy!

**Docetism – Jesus only appeared human**

►► **Did Jesus really have a body? Or was he pure spirit who only appeared in human form?** An early heresy of the church, Docetism, proposed the latter. The name comes from the Greek, *dokeo*, "to seem" and the heresy comes from a worldview of matter as being inherently evil. If physicality is evil, then God, being all-good, could not associate with it. Therefore, Jesus only appeared to be human, but was not.

**Of course, this would mean that Jesus did not really inhabit our world, suffer crucifixion and rise from the dead.** And as Paul said, "If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then our faith is in vain."

**Docetism was condemned as a heresy by the Council of Chalcedon in 451, after vigorous arguments and discussions over the previous four centuries.** Ignatius of Antioch, Irenaeus and Hippolytus all wrote treatises against it.

is fully human. For example, Jesus weeps. Even after the resurrection, he eats. The only way to save us was to assume our humanity fully – that which is not assumed cannot be saved. So, if part of the human ex-

perience falls outside the life of Jesus' experience, it would not be saved.

**Was Jesus really human or did he just appear as a human? It's one of the oldest heresies. If he only appeared as a human, then he only appeared to redeem us.**

**Father Acklin:** Was Jesus really human or

did he just appear as a human? It's one of the oldest heresies. If he only appeared as a human, then he only appeared to redeem us. As St. Irenaeus said, everything he assumed of our humanity is redeemed. There

is sometimes a tendency to exempt Jesus from having to suffer or die; or from having a human body or sexuality. If that is the case, then our bodies are not redeemed. So, the full humanity of Jesus has been taught from the earliest moment of church history.

**FAITH: Could Jesus really have sinned?**

**Father Acklin:** Jesus could be tempted, in every way that we are tempted. However, Jesus was not only perfect in his divine nature, he was perfect in his human nature. He was human in a way that was not corrupted by sin. Adam and Eve fell, but Jesus and Mary did not. The third Council of Constantinople held that Jesus had human free will as well as divine will – so



what does that symbol mean?

**Chi Rho**

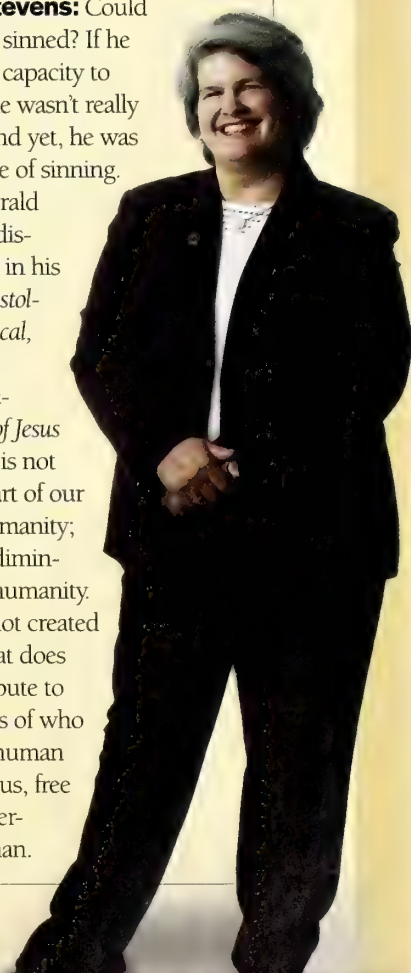
►► **The Chi Rho is an early Christian symbol – formed by combining the first two Greek letters of the word Christ. Its first famous use was on the labarum, or imperial standard, adopted by Emperor Constantine after his vision.**

he could have fallen, but didn't. His human free will was so perfectly aligned with his divine will that it would have been impossible for him to sin.

**Father Muller:** Could he have physically performed actions that were "sinful actions." Yes, he was capable of that, but the question you have to ask is: Was his grace such that sin was possible? And a related question is about us – when we are in heaven, will we be able to sin? The answer is that sin will no longer be possible because we will be faced with the full glory of God and won't want anything else. We will be free, but will freely choose to love God. That is the intrinsic necessity on which Christ's sinlessness is based. As the eternal Son, he is utterly happy and his human soul, in union with that utter happiness, would not want to sin.

**Father Stevens:** Could Jesus have sinned? If he lacked the capacity to sin, then he wasn't really human. And yet, he was not capable of sinning. Author Gerald O'Collins discusses this in his book, *Christology: A Biblical, Historical, and Systematic Study of Jesus Christ*. Sin is not actually part of our natural humanity; it is what diminishes our humanity. We were not created to sin – that does not contribute to the fullness of who we are as human beings. Jesus, free of sin, is perfectly human.

– Elizabeth Solsburg

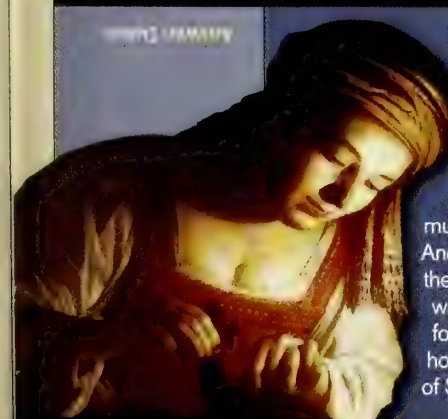


**Bible Quiz**

**I am the femme fatale of the Valley of Sorek – who am I?**

**People often say my name means "weak" in Hebrew – I myself prefer to think of it as meaning "delicate", which is so much more feminine. And I am nothing if not the epitome of feminine wiles. I was noted for my beauty in my hometown – the valley of Sorek – and my**

**name has actually become a synonym for a femme fatale. I've been portrayed in art by Tintoretto and Van Dyck, in opera by San Saens, and on film by Hedy Lamarr and Elizabeth Hurley. But my personal favorite is when Tom Jones sang a popular song about me in 1968 – thousands of years after my famous romance with a real "he-man" in the Book of Judges. I think if I'd lived in a later time, I might have gone to beauty school – I just love the feel of scissors in my hand and an untouched head of hair in front of me. Who am I?**





## Pray, write, march for life

**S**ince the tragic 1972 decision of *Roe vs. Wade*, which legalized abortion in our country, Catholics and many from other religious traditions have worked tirelessly to overturn this ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court. This year, thousands will gather again in state capitals and in Washington to give witness to the truth that every human life, from the moment of conception to natural death, is to be protected and treated with respect and dignity.

The church has taught since the first century that abortion is a grave evil. The church's *Magisterium* explains why when it tells us that from the moment of conception, the life of every human being is to be respected in an absolute way, because humans are the only creatures on earth that God has 'wished for Himself' and the spiritual soul of each human being is 'immediately created' by God. A human's whole being bears the image of the Creator. (Instruction on Respect for Human Life in Its Origin, #5)

Pope John Paul II, referring to the *Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World*, said, "Believers in Christ must defend and promote this right [to have the sacred value of human life respected to the highest degree]. Upon the recognition of this right, every human community and the political community itself are founded." (Gospel of Life, #2)

In the name of this right, we pray both as individuals and as communities of faith, and we give witness by writing to our legislators and marching. The combination of prayer and non-violent action is our most effective weapon in the battle for life for the most innocent and precious among us: the unborn.

Perhaps you have never participated in a pro-life event.

I encourage you to consider participating this year. Never underestimate the power of your prayer. It is our most powerful resource in the name of all that is good and holy.

Consider writing one of your legislators, either in Raleigh and/or in Washington, to express your disdain for the current legislation that permits abortions without restriction in our state and/or country.

Consider marching for the cause of the unborn and all of life. I will be participating in the Rally for Life in Raleigh on Jan. 13 and in the March for Life in Washington on Monday, Jan. 22. At 10:30 a.m.

on that day, I will also celebrate Mass with Bishop Peter Jugis of Charlotte at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for all the

faithful of Raleigh and Charlotte gathered in Washington. It would be most edifying if the Catholics of the Diocese of Raleigh were out in force on these days giving witness to our belief in the sanctity of all life

Through the intercession of Mary, our Mother, may our Lord Jesus aid us in our efforts for all of life, especially the unborn.

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is Bishop of Raleigh



Riegelwood: Bishop Burbidge, with Father Marcos Leon and Linda Pierce, director of the Cape Fear Regional Office of Catholic Charities, visited the site of the Nov. 16th tornado, which killed three members of Cristo Rey Church, a mission of St. Mark's in Wilmington.





## from slave to priest

**M**sgr. Gerald Lewis recently gave me a book he had just read. It was entitled, "From Slave to Priest" and written by Sister Caroline Hemesath, SSF. The subtitle of this book was "A Biography of the Reverend Augustine Tolton (1854-1897), The First Black Priest of the United States."

Father Tolton was born in slavery as the child of Peter Paul Tolton and Martha Jane Chisley. They were Catholic and married in St. Peter's Church, Brush Creek, Missouri.

The baptismal register of St. Peter Church, Sidney, (Brush Creek), Missouri reads, "A colored child born April 1, 1854. Son of Peter Tolton and Martha Chisley. Property of Stephen Eliot. Mrs. Stephen Eliot Sponsor: May 29, 1854."

The family eventually escaped from slavery into Quincy, Missouri. There Augustine felt the call to priesthood. He was encouraged by the pastor of St. Boniface Church, Father Schaeffermeyer. Father felt the wrath of some of his parishioners when he accepted Augustine into the parish school.

When Father McGirr became pastor, he and the priests at St. Boniface tutored Augustine in the hope that they could somehow get him into a seminary and he could be ordained a priest. When Father McGirr decided to become a Franciscan, he left money with another priest to provide for Augustine's education.

Every Order where Augustine and his priest mentors tried to get an acceptance said, "No." Finally a priest asked the bishop, who was going to Rome, to speak to the Prefect of the Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith to accept Augustine as a student at the Pontifical Seminary for the Propagation of the Faith. He was accepted.

On April 24, 1886, he was ordained by the Cardinal Parrochi in the Cathedral Church of Rome, St. John Lateran. He served in Quincy, then in Chicago, where he built St Monica Church. His goal had been reached. He had kept the faith. His grave is marked by a large concrete cross that reads:

Rev. Augustine Tolton  
The First Colored Priest in the  
United States  
Born in Brush Creek, Ralls County,  
Missouri, April 1, 1854  
Ordained Rome, Italy, April 24,  
1886  
Died July 9, 1897  
Requiescat in Pace

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden



Mike Hutter

## El camino del compartir

**A**l comenzar el año nuevo vemos la vida como un gran camino que tenemos que recorrer como cristianos, como miembros de la familia, de la parroquia y de la sociedad.

Seguramente hemos hecho nuestros propósitos, rogamos para que todos piensen en la familia y su bienestar.

Pero quisiera centrarme en los propósitos para vivir el don de ser Iglesia durante este tiempo que nos regala Dios; para que celebrando los misterios de Cristo, aprendamos sus verdades y vivamos el don de la caridad con nuestros hermanos.

Ser Iglesia en este tiempo no es solamente tener fe sino que implica participar de las expresiones de la misma fe a través de las celebraciones y hacerlas obras concretas en la construcción de la solidaridad.

Para que podamos recorrer este camino necesitamos compartir las riquezas de nuestra fe, de nuestros talentos y de nuestros bienes materiales.

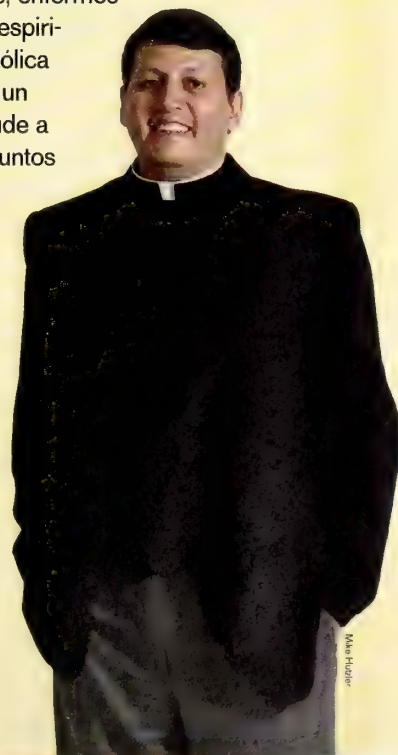
Cada año la Iglesia nos hace un llamado a colaborar con la *Campaña Anual del Obispo (BAA)* para apoyar los diferentes ministerios que sirven a nuestra Iglesia para seguir proclamando la Buena Nueva y seguir viviendo la Caridad con los más necesitados tanto material como espiritualmente.

Seguramente, muchos de nosotros pensamos que es un llamado a dar una limosna, o es una colecta más. Pero la verdad que es un llamado a participar en la construcción y en el desarrollo de una Iglesia que es misionera, que es pequeña y necesitada de la ayuda de todos para recorrer el camino de la evangelización.

Ayudemos todos con nuestras contribuciones generosas para que muchos niños, jóvenes, esposos, enfermos y necesitados en lo material o en lo espiritual reciban a través de la Iglesia católica una ayuda, un apoyo, un consuelo y un signo de solidaridad. Donde nos ayude a todos a reconocer que caminamos juntos en defensa de la dignidad humana, de su fe y de su bienestar integral.

Así podremos demostrar que nuestros propósitos unidos a la oración se hacen caminos de verdadera transformación y evangelización. Que nuestros proyectos y nuestra fe se hacen vida para todos en la solidaridad y que caminando juntos podremos tener una Iglesia viva que da testimonio de la presencia de Cristo en cada persona, en cada comunidad y en cada celebración.

— Padre Fernando Torres



Mike Hutter



# Religious life,



Eight sisters  
share insights  
from 390 years  
of faithful service.



# in our own words

On Feb. 10, the Diocese of Raleigh will recognize eight sisters, members of eight different religious orders, who represent, cumulatively, nearly four centuries of vowed life. In this, their year of jubilee, they talked about their communities, their families, and the joys they have discovered in religious life.

## **Sister Mary Peter Meckel, S.P. – 60 Years**

My order, the Congregation of Sisters of Providence of Holyoke, Mass., was founded by Mother Mary of Providence Horan, and based on the spirituality of St. Vincent de Paul. We strive to reveal in the church the mystery of God's providence, bringing hope to those in need through ministries of healing, attending particularly to the cries of the poor and oppressed. We began working with orphans in Holyoke, Mass., then opened soup kitchens and other services for the poor in Massachusetts.

In North Carolina, I've tutored elementary school children, particularly Hispanic children, in Red Springs. All these ministries have been important and life-giving for me. My experiences in Massachusetts helped me with the programs in Red Springs.

As I look back over 60 years, I realize that my trust in Providence and the support of my community have kept me going. Moving to North Carolina has enriched my life, provided new experiences and opportunities to meet and live with people of other cultures, backgrounds and beliefs.



## **Sister Lois MacGillivray, S.N.J.M.**

### **– 50 Years**

I belong to the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. The Order was founded by Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, whose motto was "The full development of the human person." I attracted to this community by the wonderful education I received from its Sisters in high school. I was also struck by their vibrancy and good humor.

Over the course of 50 years, I have ministered in elementary education, as a college president and as a social science researcher. The years as a college president were the most challenging: It is a seven-day-a-week assignment with multiple constituencies. That role taught me a great deal.

Prayer and a sense of God's guiding hand have kept me grounded in religious life. I am grateful for the support of the other Sisters in learning about life and grace, and grateful to have a life that makes space for prayer and constructive ministries, as well as leading to simplicity and an awareness of others.





## Sister Shirley Ann Simpson, C.S.C. – 50 Years

I rejoice to celebrate 50 years of vowed life and ministry and 25 years in the Diocese of Raleigh – at Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Raphael's in Raleigh, St. Stephen's in Sanford, St. Mary Catholic School and Holy Family Parish in Hillsborough.

When I was in sixth grade, Sister Marie Pierre, I.H.M., who had known us for several years, told me that she thought one of the Simpson girls would be a Sister. The seed was planted. Holy Cross Sisters were my high school teachers; I liked them and what I learned about their community appealed to me.

I started my ministry as a second-grade teacher. Since then, I have prepared hundreds of children for first Communion as teacher and as parish DRE. The ministry I love most is preparing older children for Eucharist. Their parents are vulnerable, because "We're late doing this." I delight in assuring them that our God loves us all and is not concerned about the timing but waits to welcome them.

Only by the assurance of God's constant care and action in my life, the support of my community, family and friends, and the inspiration of the people I have met in ministry have I gotten to this jubilee.

## Sister Mary Therese Brown, S.N.D. – 50 Years

I came to my community, the Sisters of Notre Dame, by the example of the Sisters I had as teachers from elementary school through college. I was struck by their centeredness on Jesus, community living, their love of one another, their love of Mary and the thoroughness of their teaching and service to others.

From my initial call and response to religious life, my life has been enriched by the people I have met, worked with and called friends. I enjoyed teaching in many situations: inner city, suburbs, boarding school (13 years at Notre Dame Academy in Middleburg, Va.), all girls and co-ed. And I found pastoral ministry a way to continue catechesis with adults. My present ministry at St. Andrew the Apostle in Apex has been most rewarding, especially in accompanying new Catholics through the RCIA process.

The things that have sustained me in religious life include the example of the Sisters who taught me and later became friends and mentors; the opportunities to grow spiritually as well as professionally; the chance to share knowledge and the love of learning and faith with hundred of students; and the opportunity to share faith journeys with those who have found a home in the Catholic faith.



## Sister Theresine Gildea, C.D.P. – 50 Years



My community, the Congregation of Divine Providence, was founded in Germany. Our charism is trust in and openness to the providence of God, and making God's providence more visible in our world.

Religious life was not part of my future planning; marriage was. By accident, though, I met a Sister from the community who spoke about their missionary work. I was always attracted to this type of service, and, after many struggles with "I don't think so, God," I entered religious life.

Every assignment I have answered holds a special place in my heart. Ten years in Puerto Rico fulfilled my desire to work in the missions. The faith of the poor was a special gift to me. My work in pastoral ministry for 20 years in Pittsburgh enabled me to use my counseling abilities, and served as a bridge from mission work to family counseling, hospital visits, food for the needy and many other blessings. It is so easy to miss the mission work in our own country. Working with the Spanish-speaking for the last 10 years in North Carolina has been a blessing.

I have been a counselor for more than 30 years, and I feel this is my gift. I love people, and my heart is always where I am working at the present time. Our founding Mother taught us that people are God's special gift to us, and showing God's providence to them, with compassion, justice, love and joy, is my goal.

## Sister Teresa Marry, S.S.L. – 50 Years



My religious community, the Sisters of St. Louis, was founded in France in 1797. I entered the community in Monaghan, Ireland. After my profession of vows, and in the exuberance of my youth, I volunteered for our missions in Africa. But God had another plan for me: I was assigned to California! I have spent most of my life in the ministry of Catholic school education.

In 1992, Bishop Joseph Gossman welcomed the Sisters of St. Louis to the Diocese of Raleigh. I responded to my community's invitation to ministry in Ahoskie. Today, I teach GED and ESL classes in the community college system. I also enjoy working in faith development in my parish and reaching out to the migrant workers in the area.

It was a challenge to adjust to life in Ahoskie after California. The loneliness was eased by the warm welcome and support of the St. Charles Borromeo Parish Community. Gradually, Ahoskie became home to me. In difficult times over these 50 years, I

have been sustained by a favorite Scripture passage: "The favors of the Lord are renewed each morning, so great is God's faithfulness." Lam. 3:22-23. I believe God loves me unconditionally and accompanies me every step of the way.

**After my profession of vows, and in the exuberance of my youth, I volunteered for our missions in Africa. But God had another plan for me: I was assigned to California!**







**Sister Margaret Holleran, M.S.S.C.**  
– 40 Years

The Missionary Sisters of St. Columban – Columban Sisters for short – were begun in 1921 in Ireland. Our co-

founder envisaged a group of

"religious and

hardy women

who would

be ready at

a moment's

notice to jump

on a horse

and ride any

distance to a

sick call." Our

ministries were

especially to be

among women,

children, the

marginalized

and the poor.

Although

I realized

that God was

calling me to

religious life,

I was a very

independent person who didn't

particularly care about convent

living as I had known it from

the Sisters who taught me in

school. Then I met a Columban

Sister who was doing post-

graduate work in London. Her

simplicity and prayerfulness

touched me deeply.

I have cherished all my minis-

tries in the Church and outside

it. They have led me in different

ways into the mystery of life and

the heart of God in each person

I have met and served. I have

fond memories of many years

in faith formation in the Philip-

pines. The poor taught me much

about hospitality, oppression

and hope. Today, as I minister

to our Hispanic community, I

am reminded again of the evils

of poverty and exploitation. I

**Discerning a Vocation?**

For more information about vowed Religious life, call Sister Kieran Williams, I.H.M., at 252.792.4091 or [holytrinity2@cox.net](mailto:holytrinity2@cox.net), or go to [www.raleighcouncilofreligious.com](http://www.raleighcouncilofreligious.com).

am inspired by their deep desire to integrate into a new culture while holding on to what is special and sacred in their own. I am inspired by their faith in God and love for our Blessed Mother.

My quest for the God of my life is inspired by my great passion, the man Jesus, his message and his word. No words can express my experiences of God in people, especially the poor, and in the daily events of my life.

**Sister Joanna Walsh, F.C.J.**  
– 40 Years

My community, the Faithful Companions of Jesus, was founded in 1820

by Marie Madeleine d'Houet, under the direction of Jesuits in France. She wanted women with the courage of those early women disciples who were faithful companions of Jesus right to the foot of the Cross. She began working with orphans, as well as opening schools for girls and providing formation for young women working in factories. Today, we are in 15 countries; our newest foundation is in Mexico.

I was taught by the FCJs in both elementary and high school in Rhode Island. My aunt and my two older sisters were members of the community. Their life of prayer attracted me; also, I wanted to be a teacher. There was a mystery about religious life which drew me. I loved going to Mass, and I wanted to grow closer to God.

Living in North Carolina has



taught me much about ecumenical and interfaith collegiality. Campus ministry let me apply what I had learned as a pastoral assistant to young adults who were making big decisions about their futures. Spiritual direction is now a major focus of my ministry. It allows me to offer hospitality to another person, to use my gifts of listening with compassion and helping the other person

to look at his/her life experiences from another perspective. To hear people's stories, to walk with them as they strive to discern God's guidance in the complexity of their lives – this is a sacred trust. Time spent this way with another person deepens and challenges my own faith.

Living in North Carolina has taught me much about ecumenical and interfaith collegiality. Campus ministry let me apply what I had learned as a pastoral assistant to young adults who were making big decisions about their futures.

**resource**

**Jubilee Celebration Mass**

►► On Feb. 10, at Sacred Heart Cathedral, the diocese will honor these Sister jubilarians. A Mass at 11 a.m. will be followed by a reception in the parish hall. All are invited to celebrate with the Sisters.





**A** principios de 1800 se intentó establecer en Siler City, en el condado de Chatham, una industria de seda. Es de ahí que la comunidad agrícola de Silk Hope toma su nombre. De ése intento ya no quedan señales, pero aun existe un lugar en medio del campo donde hay esperanza por un mundo mejor y más pacífico. La casa de 2,010 pies cuadrados es una granja blanca situada en un lote de un acre, donde hay unos gallineros y una huerta orgánica. Este es el hogar de Steve Woolford, Lenore Yarger y su hija de dos años, Geneva, quienes como miembros del movimiento Catholic Worker (Trabajador Católico) ofrecen su hogar temporalmente, a quien necesite un hogar transitorio.

El movimiento de Catholic Worker fue fundado por Dorothy Day y Peter Maurin en 1933, basándose en la creencia firme que Dios hace digno a todo ser humano. Hoy existen en el mundo más de 185 comunidades del movimiento y están comprometidas a la no violencia, a la pobreza voluntaria, a la oración, a hospedar personas sin hogar y los que tienen hambre. Steve y Lenore se conocieron en una comunidad similar en Phoenix, AZ y en 1998 iniciaron su propia casa de hospitalidad un poco más cerca de sus familias. (Los padres de Lenore viven en Raleigh y tiene una hermana en Apex).

"No hay una historia particular de la gente que viene aquí" dice Steve. Los huéspedes en Silk Hope llegan porque son referidos por las iglesias, los trabajadores sociales, la policía, el departamento de salud del condado e incluyen víctimas de abuso sexual, algunos con problemas de drogas, o personas incapacitadas que esperan que se les aprueben sus beneficios. "Son personas que están en transición. Algunos son inmigrantes. Pueden haber estado viviendo en el automóvil; puede ser que les quitaron su trailer. Algunos pueden tener un trabajo y hasta un automóvil pero no tienen dónde quedarse. Son personas que por una u otra razón han sido olvidadas."

No existe una política sobre cuánto tiempo se puede quedar un huésped. Steve sonríe: "Hemos tenido personas que se han quedado una noche y otras dos años. Lo que esperamos es que cuando vengan simplemente tengan un plan realista para lograr independizarse."

Steve y Lenore tratan de preparar la cena para todos los que viven en la casa, dos o tres veces a la semana. Eventualmente los huéspedes logran conocerse entre sí. "Sería imposible no hacerlo" bromea Steve, "sólo tenemos un baño". Hay tres cuartos adicionales en la casa y una pequeña cabaña en el jardín de adelante. El día que Steve y Lenore hablaron con la revista NCC, los huéspedes eran dos mujeres, un padre y su hijo de México, y otra pareja del movimiento Catholic Worker con su bebé.

Para una pareja joven con una hija de dos años, puede ser una prueba rigurosa el compartir su casa con extraños a los que la pobreza ha marcado de distintas formas. En una carta informativa que ellos publican dos veces al año, Lenore escribió emotivamente sobre la vida que ella y Steve sienten que el Evangelio los llama a seguir. Tituló el artículo: "Hospitalidad temible y dura".

En el artículo escribió lo siguiente: "Espero cada llamada con sentimientos encontrados. Por un lado tengo la esperanza



# Una bienve

## información

### Para más información

► Para conocer más sobre el movimiento Catholic Worker, Dorothy Day, o cómo comenzar un hogar, vaya a [www.catholicworker.org](http://www.catholicworker.org). Si desea recibir la carta informativa de la comunidad de Silk Hope, escriba a la siguiente dirección: 3355 Woody Store Road, Siler City, NC 27344.

de que los que nos necesitan nos encuentren. Por otro lado, me muero de susto cuando pienso que realmente van a venir." Nos contó de una familia que causó tanta intranquilidad hasta el punto que los otros huéspedes les pidieron que se fueran. Repitiendo las palabras de Dorothy Day dice: "Entregar nuestras posesiones todos los días, a cada hora y especialmente subordinar nuestros propios impulsos y deseos a los de los demás- son cosas muy difíciles; tampoco creo que las cosas se vuelvan más fáciles."

"Hace mucho dejé de pensar que ofrecer hospitalidad siempre te hará sentir bien. Todo lo que puedo realmente esperar es que nuestro teléfono siga sonando. Y espero tener el valor de seguirlo contestando".

La comunidad no recibe ningún beneficio de los huéspedes. Lenore nos explica: "Tenemos con los Quakers un trabajo por el que nos pagan, aconsejando a los soldados que





# vida sencilla

El Centro de Catholic Worker (Trabajador Católico) en Silk Hope es un oasis de hospitalidad en el condado rural de Chatham.



quieran dejar la fuerza militar y no están muy seguros de cuales son sus derechos." Los miembros como los Quakers, son pacifistas comprometidos y se oponen a cualquier tipo de violencia. Parte de su pacifismo es no ganar lo suficiente como para no tener que pagar impuestos, ya que ese dinero puede ayudar a financiar la guerra.

¿Qué tan católica es la vida de una comunidad de éstas? Steve nos dice lo siguiente: "No tratamos de hacer mucho proselitismo. Tratamos de vivir en paz, construir el reino. Me gusta pensar que evangelizamos por medio del ejemplo."

Lenore está de acuerdo con esto: "Es practicar la espiritualidad. Más tarde o más temprano nuestros huéspedes se preguntan porque vivimos así. Y ven que es debido a nuestra fe."

La comunidad también se enfoca en vivir de manera sencilla: reciclar, sembrar una huerta orgánica, preservar la energía. "No se trata ofrecer de hospitalidad

## "Deseo ser voluntario en una comunidad de Catholic Worker (Trabajador Católico)"



► Pocas veces se hace publicidad a las oportunidades de voluntariado en los hogares de Trabajadores Católicos. Algunas veces se puede encontrar un aviso en el periódico *Catholic Worker* de Nueva York, 36 East First Street, New York, NY 10003) o en la revista *Sojourners*. Se le aconseja a las personas interesadas, que contacten directamente el hogar de Trabajadores Católicos en el que tengan interés. En el internet se puede encontrar en el Internet un directorio de los hogares de Catholic Worker (Trabajador Católico), su dirección, teléfono y una breve descripción de las actividades de la comunidad en <http://www.catholicworker.org/communities>. Además el periódico *The Catholic Worker* publica una lista de los hogares en su edición de Mayo.

simplemente," según nos explica Lenore. La hospitalidad es parte de la no violencia, pero se necesita manejar el todo: la guerra, el racismo, la violencia con los hijos, la violencia que cometemos en contra de nuestro planeta...

"Cuando decimos que debemos vivir simplemente, nos damos cuenta que gran parte del mundo pensaría que la forma como vivimos es totalmente lujosa. Pero tratamos de ser concientes y le ayudamos a los otros a ser concientes hasta el punto que tratamos de evitar ser cómplices en propagar cualquier tipo de violencia."

Con ese mismo espíritu, Steve y Lenore han participado de muchas vigiliyas y protestas. Lenore recuerda lo siguiente: "Comenzamos durante la administración del presidente Clinton, protestando ante las amenazas de Clinton de bombardear Iraq, en contra de las sanciones que le fueron impuestas a ese país." En junio de 2003, Lenore viajó a Iraq para hablar con la gente, para saber directamente cómo se sentían los Iraquíes por las sanciones, cómo habían afectado sus vidas." Steve ha participado en protestas contra la pena de muerte y a favor de los derechos de los trabajadores agrícolas. Ha sido arrestado más de una vez. ¿Cree él realmente que puede cambiar el mundo?

En la carta informativa que la

comunidad Catholic Worker publica, escribió una vez lo siguiente: "Tengo que admitir que hay veces que me he sentido abrumado por los problemas del mundo. La espiritualidad que me sostiene en dichos momentos es simple: Es confiar que Dios está con nosotros en nuestros esfuerzos y que Dios multiplica el bien que hacemos. Esta es la misma espiritualidad de los panes y los peces, del maná en el desierto, de los lirios en el campo. Sólo viviendo con esa confianza es que podemos tener vida realmente abundante." ☪

**John 6:35**  
**Eucharistic Youth Retreat**  
**will be held in Raleigh**  
**the weekend of**  
**March 23, 24 & 25, 2007**

Please stay updated  
and Register at  
[www.InHisName.com](http://www.InHisName.com) soon!



635





## “¿Qué puedo hacer con la duda? Quiero creer en Dios y en Jesús pero algunas veces siento que mi fe vacila.”

**C**uando leo su pregunta, me viene a la memoria la bella historia del Evangelio de Marcos, en la que un hombre le trae a Jesús, su hijo poseído por un espíritu malo para que lo sane. El padre le pide a Jesús, “Si puedes hacer algo, ten compasión de nosotros y ayúdanos.” Jesús le dijo: “Por qué dices ‘si puedes’? “Todo es posible para el que cree”. Al instante el padre gritó: “Creo, ¡pero ayuda mi poca fe!”

Al igual que el hombre en el Evangelio, todos luchamos contra la “incredulidad”... la duda. Por esta razón muchas veces nos encontramos haciendo “actos de fe”. Pienso que la vez en la que muchos de nosotros dudamos sobre el significado de la vida y tenemos que hacer un acto de fe es durante la Misa funeral. Hace años estuve en una

Misa funeral muy concurrida, en la Parroquia de St. Francis of Assisi en Raleigh, para celebrar la vida y la muerte de una pequeña niña, hija única, que había muerto en un accidente automovilístico.

**Ya que usted  
lo pregunta ...  
Este mes con Terry Jackson**

Mientras estaba sentado en el banco de la iglesia, el ataúd a pocos pies de donde estaba, el sacerdote celebrante oraba: “Señor, tú que conoces las profundidades del corazón y consuelas sus penas, mira la fe de estos padres y concédeles el íntimo convencimiento de que a su hija, cuya muerte lloran, le has abierto a tus

brazos misericordiosos. Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo.” Luego, toda la congregación respondió con un atronador “AMEN”.

Recuerdo haber pensado “¡Qué increíble acto de fe fue este Amen!” Con ese “Amén” estábamos diciendo a una sola voz, que a pesar de nuestras dudas y temores, creemos que hay un Dios, que hay vida después de la muerte, y que esta pequeña niña vivirá por siempre. Era un sí unísono a las

palabras de San Juan Crisóstomo: “La que aman y han perdido ya no está donde estaba antes. Ahora está entre ustedes.” Salí del funeral con mi fe renovada. Eso es lo que estamos llamados a hacer en cada Misa. Nos reunimos con nuestras dudas, nuestros temores y esperanzas, rogamos los unos por los otros por medio de la oración y la canción y salimos de la iglesia con la determinación de tratar de tener más fe en nuestro trabajo y en nuestro hogar.

Para mí es importante recordar que la fe es un don. Un profesor amigo mío oraba todos los días por el don de la fe y nunca lo recibió. Pareciera que el don de la fe fuera una bendición. También es importante recordar que cada acto de fe, igual que cada acto de amor, implica una decisión. Si únicamente decidimos amar o

creer cuando “queremos hacerlo”, ni nuestra fe ni nuestro amor serían muy significativos y darían poco testimonio en favor del Jesús que conocemos y amamos.

Quisiera resaltar dos párrafos del Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica (164 y 165) los cuales tratan el tema de la fe y la duda. Puede que usted los encuentre útiles.

Ahora, sin embargo, “caminamos en la fe y no en la visión” (2 Cor 5,7), y conocemos a Dios “como en un

espejo, de una manera confusa,... imperfecta” (1 Cor 13,12). Luminosa por aquel en quien cree, la fe es vivida con frecuencia en la oscuridad. La fe puede ser puesta a prueba. El mundo en que vivimos parece con frecuencia muy lejos de lo que la fe nos asegura; las experiencias del mal y del sufrimiento, de las injusticias y de la muerte parecen contradecir la buena nueva, pueden estremecer la fe y llegar a ser para ella una tentación.

Entonces es cuando debemos volvernos hacia los testigos de la fe: Abraham, que creyó, “esperando contra toda esperanza” (Rom 4,18); la Virgen María que, en “la peregrinación de la fe” (LG 58), llegó hasta la “noche de la fe” (Juan Pablo II, R Mat 18) participando en el sufrimiento de su Hijo y en la noche de su sepulcro; y tantos otros testigos de la fe: “También nosotros, teniendo en torno nuestro tan gran nube de testigos, sacudamos todo lastre y el pecado que nos asedia, y corramos con fortaleza la prueba que se nos propone, fijos los ojos en Jesús, el que inicia y consuma la fe” (Hb 12,1-2).

Gracias por su atenta pregunta. Lo tendré en mis pensamientos y oraciones. Le deseo paz. ✠

— Terry Jackson. D. Min., CSW es el Director Diocesano de Evangelización y Catequesis.



## Orar, Escribir, Marchar a favor de la Vida

**D**esde la trágica decisión de Roe vs. Wade en 1972, en la que se legalizó el aborto en nuestro país, los católicos y muchos otros representantes de otras tradiciones religiosas han trabajado incansablemente por revocar esta ley de la Corte Suprema.

Este año, miles de personas se reunirán otra vez en las capitales de los estados y en Washington para dar testimonio a la verdad, que cada vida humana desde el momento de la concepción hasta la muerte natural debe protegerse y tratarse con respeto y dignidad.

Desde el primer siglo, la Iglesia ha enseñado que el aborto es un mal grave. El Magisterio de la Iglesia explica porque cuando se dice que desde el momento de la concepción, la vida de cada ser humano debe ser respetada de modo absoluto; porque el hombre es la única criatura en la tierra que Dios "ha querido por si misma", y el alma espiritual de cada hombre es 'inmediatamente creada' por Dios; todo su ser lleva grabada la imagen del Creador. (Instrucción sobre el Respeto de la Vida Humana Naciente, #5).

Su Santidad, el Papa Juan Pablo II, refiriéndose a la Constitución Pastoral en la Iglesia en el Mundo Moderno dijo lo siguiente: "Los creyentes en Cristo deben de modo particular, defender y promover

este derecho [que el valor sagrado de la vida humana sea respetado totalmente]. En el reconocimiento de este derecho se fundamenta la convivencia humana y la misma comunidad política. (El Evangelio de la Vida, #2).

En nombre de este derecho oramos como personas individuales y como comunidad de fe y damos testimonio al escribirles a nuestros legisladores y haciendo marchas. Combinar la oración con acciones no violentas es nuestra arma más efectiva en la lucha a favor de la vida de los más inocentes y valiosos entre nosotros, los que aún no han nacido.

Tal vez nunca haya usted participado en un evento Pro-Vida. Lo animo a que considere participar este año. Nunca

subestime el poder de su oración. Es nuestro recurso más poderoso en nombre de todo lo que es bueno y sagrado. Considere escribirle a uno de sus legisladores, ya sea en Raleigh o en Washington, para expresarle su desdén por la legislación actual que permite los abortos en nuestro estado o país sin ninguna restricción. Considere marchar a favor de esta causa y a favor de toda vida. Estaré participando en una Manifestación a favor de la Vida que se realizará en Raleigh el 13 de enero y en la Marcha a favor de la Vida en Washington, el 22 de enero. También celebraré ese día a las 10:30 a.m. una Misa con el Obispo Peter Jugis de la Diócesis de Charlotte, quien dará la homilia por todos los fieles de Raleigh y Charlotte reunidos en Washington en la Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Sería muy edificante si los Católicos de la Diócesis de Raleigh se expresaran durante estos días, dando testimonio de nuestra creencia en la santidad de toda vida.

Por la intercesión de la Virgen María, nuestra Madre, que nuestro Señor Jesús nos ayude en nuestros esfuerzos a favor de cada vida, en especial los que aún no han nacido.

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh



Riegelwood: el Obispo Burbidge junto al Padre Marcos León y la señora Linda Pierce, directora de la Oficina Regional de Catholic Charities en el Cape Fear, visitaron el lugar donde golpeó el tornado, el pasado 16 de noviembre, matando a tres miembros de la Parroquia Cristo Rey.





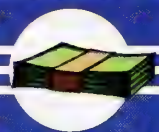


romance



**Dance the night away**  
▶▶ One evening (or more) per week, after the kids are in bed, turn on your favorite music and dance together. Holding your beloved and talking to him or her is wonderfully intimate.

money



**Save, save, save**  
▶▶ It's hard to do when the bills are looming. Either pay the savings account first (5 percent -10 percent of your income) or have it automatically deposited to a savings account from your payroll. If you don't see it, you won't spend it!

**S**usan and Dan have been married for 25 years. Their romantic relationship has been suffering

he says

**the romance has fizzled**

**Dan says:** Susan and I have been married for a long time – I don't know, maybe too long. We used to do a lot of fun things on the weekends, and Susan would show me how much she found me attractive in little ways – notes in my lunch, seeing action movies that I know she doesn't really like. Now, it's just routine all the time – all we ever talk about is the kids. I don't feel as if we have anything in common anymore.

expert says

Dan and Susan are not the first couple who have been married this long. Twenty-five years is a long time. Marriages that have lasted that long often need special care along the way. Both the man and the woman in long-term relationships get used to caring for others. Usually, it's the children and sometimes other family members. Often they neglect each other, taking each other for granted. What can we do to make the relationship special again?

First and foremost, we must prioritize the marital relationship.

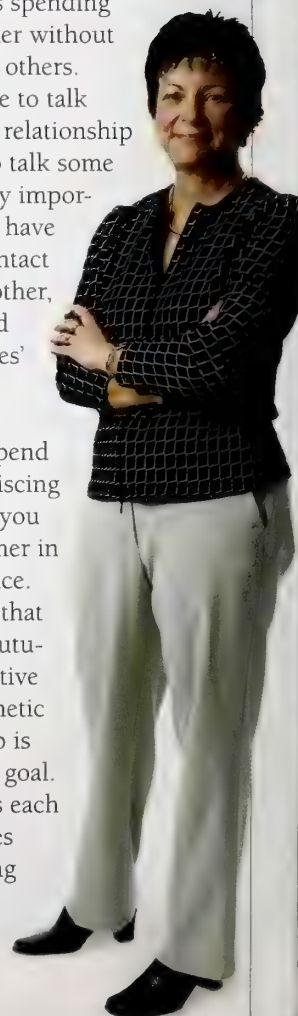
she says

**he may be right**

**Susan says:** Dan's right. I don't think either one of us feels the "glow" anymore. After 25 years, we may just be bored. Sometimes, after we've completed all the essential conversation of the day – what the kids need, what bills need to be paid – there is no time or energy left. I'd really rather just watch TV and unwind, or maybe read. Perhaps we **have** been married too long.

**He said  
She said  
what do they do?**

That means spending time together without children or others. Having time to talk about your relationship and time to talk some more is very important. If you have lost this contact with each other, try to spend several 'dates' or alone-time doing just that. Spend time reminiscing about why you came together in the first place. Remember that having a mutually supportive and empathetic relationship is the desired goal. That means each person takes turns talking with honesty and





## communication



**You have the floor**  
**►► If you don't feel you can get a word in edgewise, try using a small floor tile or other object as a modern version of the "speaking stick."** If you "have the floor," you get to speak — uninterrupted. When you pass the floor tile, the next speaker echoes what you've said so that you know you were heard — and then it's his or her turn to speak — without you interrupting.

listening with empathy. Talk about your feelings and thoughts. This allows each partner to listen to the other person and confirm the other's feelings, while allowing a connection to their own feelings. This creates a mutually supportive relationship that is positive for both partners. This 'connection' builds trust and mutual respect, the foundation of loving relationships. Again, this talking and listening may take several different private times. Try not to rush this process. Become friends again.

If this empathetic listening and talking work in creating mutual trust and respect, love may bloom again. Having a good friend in your marital partner is a great start to getting the 'glow' back.

The next step is pretty easy. Start to date again. Spend time relaxing and holding each other. Alone time is again really important. Depending on each partner's

**Remember that having a mutually supportive and empathetic relationship is the desired goal. That means each person takes turns talking with honesty and listening with empathy.**

style, this may also take some time to re-develop the glow. Sometimes, by acting as romantic as you were at the beginning of your relationship, the reality will follow.

These techniques work well for

partners who need to connect again. If the issues are deeper, a series of counseling sessions may be necessary. This helps get the little-used techniques of communication back in shape, just like a personal trainer helps us get back in good physical shape. I would encourage all partners to try counseling

before they take any next step. Dan and Susan talk about maybe being married "too long." Please don't draw that conclusion too early without trying professional help. Most relationships can be helped with outside assistance. Twenty-five years are worth saving.

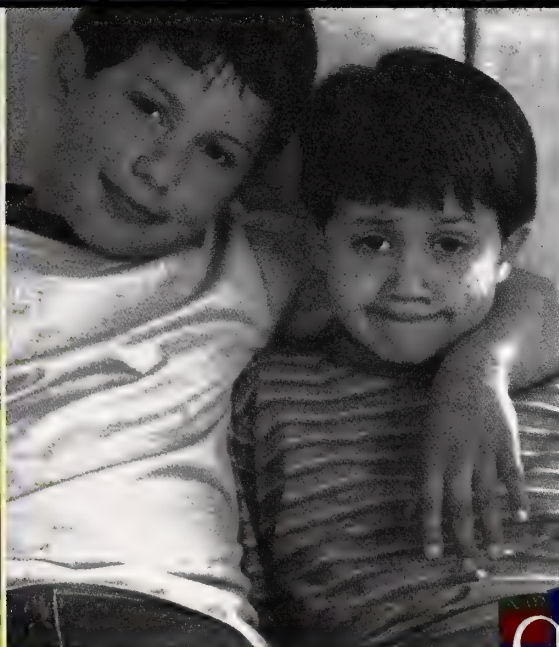
— Deborah McCormack

## time



**Schedule some time together.**

**►► Planning is preparation, but scheduling is commitment.** Once the time slot is agreed to, write it down in more than one place. Write it down in red ink at work, at home on the refrigerator door calendar, on your PDA, on your daily planner, and on your computer calendar. Label it: "Marriage Time."



## THIS is GEORGE and his 63 YEAR-OLD KID BROTHER, JOE.

*[Pictured 58 years ago.]* Today, they're still young at heart. George likes to watch football, read and eat steak. Joe enjoys hiking, grilled fish and Sunday football with his brother. They plan to live happily [with their wives] here...



Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor  
 Servants of the Mother of God

(336) 886-4103 or

toll free (866) 627-9343

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

**PENNYBYRN**  
 at MARYFIELD  
 A Retirement Living Community



NP/NCC/young2







**E**ver have a day when Murphy's Law seemed to reign? Murphy's Law says, "Whatever can go wrong, will!" It is like the

pessimist's dream come true. There are plenty of real-life stories around that tend to back up this view. Imagine coming home one day and finding that your house was bulldozed down by accident. It actually happened to an old lady in New York. Even worse tragedies afflict people daily. What can we make of it all in terms of our faith in God? Does God care? Is God faithful to us? Is God punishing us for our sins? Similar questions were asked a few thousand years ago. Just read the Book of Job.

If you are going through a hard time, the first few chapters will be comfortable terrain for you. In a quick series of events, Job loses all that he loves. His family and wealth are gone in a single day, and shortly thereafter, his health is taken. The book puts the blame on the devil. Satan tested Job and taunted God, saying that Job only loved God because Job was so blessed. Take away his blessings, and "surely he will blaspheme you to your face." (Job 1:11)

That can happen.

When tragedy strikes, various temptations present themselves. One is to blame God, and blame leads to anger or even blasphemy. Another temptation is to lose faith in God, or to interpret the tragedy as Job's friends did – they blamed Job's predicament on the sins he committed. Most of us can think of sins we have committed and "gotten away" with. But as people of faith, we know that is never true. Sin always has its own punishment, and so when tragedy strikes, we often think that our punishment has just caught up to us. Often, we indeed can see a direct connection between

## Is God punishing me?

How do we deal with tragedy and pain in our lives?

the suffering we are going through and a bad choice – a sin we committed. But what about when that is not apparent?

At the end of Chapter 2, Job is sitting in ashes, covered head to foot in boils. His own wife, who ironically was not taken from him (probably some Jewish humor there), yells at him, "Are you still holding to your innocence? Curse God and



die.” (Job 2:9) Wow. His soul-mate and life partner turns against him. It does not get much worse than that.

Amazingly, Job does not lose faith. He also does not accept the words of his friends who are trying to make him responsible for his misery. Job really has tried to live a righteous life so he does not accept their explanation that he is to blame for his woes and wants to hear directly from God.

Well, God answers. Job experiences God and is humbled, and surrenders in trust to God. The book ends with God raising Job back to life. He is given back all his possessions, children and health in more abundance than before. God is faithful to Job.

The book never fully answers the reason for Job’s suffering. In his case, it is apparent that it was not a result of anything he did. If anything, Job’s suffering was due to the envy of Satan. However, the book encourages us to trust fully in God, no matter why or what we are suffering or what happens to us in life.

This is the path Jesus walked all the way to Calvary. He was perfectly innocent; yet we see how much he suffered.

The same holds for us as well. Tragedy and suffering are under God’s loving providence. I call them “God’s strange rope of grace!” Strange, because they are not the normal means of grace we experience in the sacraments. Nonetheless, they are charged with God’s help. Many times I have heard someone say, “Father, I do not completely understand this, but I think my suffering is a blessing!” They go on and tell me why – “It has brought me closer to God, and my family,” or “It has helped me see what is really important in life.” In their suffering, they meet Jesus Christ on the cross. God remains faithful to them and does not abandon them.

God is faithful and never abandons any of us, especially in our times of suffering and trial. The cross always leads to the resurrection!

## Spiritual Exercises

**T**his month, we are going to focus on the faithfulness of God and our response to that faithfulness.

**There are so many trials we must face: accident, injury, serious illness, loss of loved ones, loss of job and many others.** Consider your own trials and then read some of the trials of St. Paul as expressed in 2 Cor 11:16-12:10. Ask yourself the question: With all these trials, how could Paul believe God was faithful to him? Think about it. Then read Philipians 3:7-21 to see how God has helped Paul understand his sufferings with respect to the cross.

### ►► Pray this prayer while you meditate on God’s faithfulness:

Eternal Father, ever faithful, ever true. *May I be faithful to you.*  
 You have promised never to leave me. *May I never leave you.*  
 You sent your only beloved Son to save me. *Draw me close to him.*  
 You have forgiven my sins by the offering of Jesus, the unblemished lamb. *Open my heart to your mercy.*  
 You have given your love to me in Christ. *Inflame my heart with love for you.*  
 You have shown me the way I must walk. *Keep me true to your commandments.*  
 You have given me new birth by water and the Holy Spirit. *May I rejoice in being your child.*  
 You have fed me with heavenly bread. *Increase my hunger for you.*  
 You have given me to drink of the cup of life. *Inebriate my soul.*  
 You have poured your Spirit out on me. *Make me a sacrifice of praise.*  
 You have raised me from death to life. *May I live for you alone.*  
 You have stretched forth your

hand and saved me. *Hide me in your wounds.*

You have set my feet on the rock. *May my life’s foundation be Jesus, your saving word.*

You have destroyed the power of sin. *Strengthen my resolve to flee from sin.*

You have swallowed death in victory. *May I not be afraid.*

You have broken the powers of hell. *Deliver me from all evil.*

You have opened the gates of paradise. *Flood my soul with hope.*

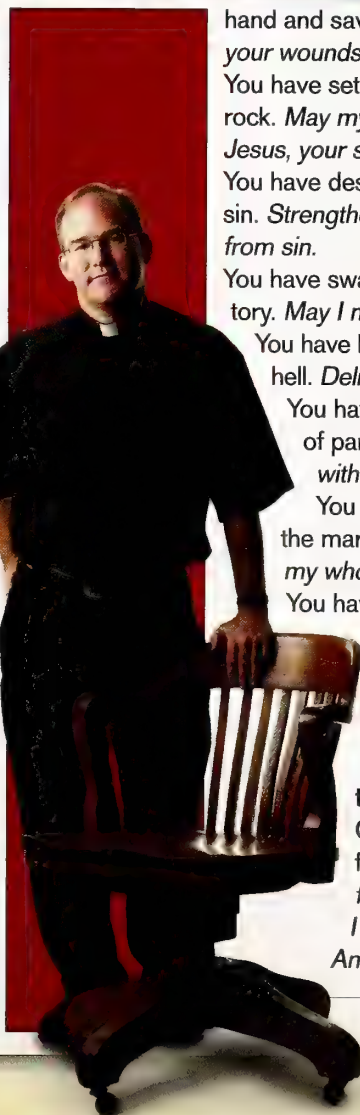
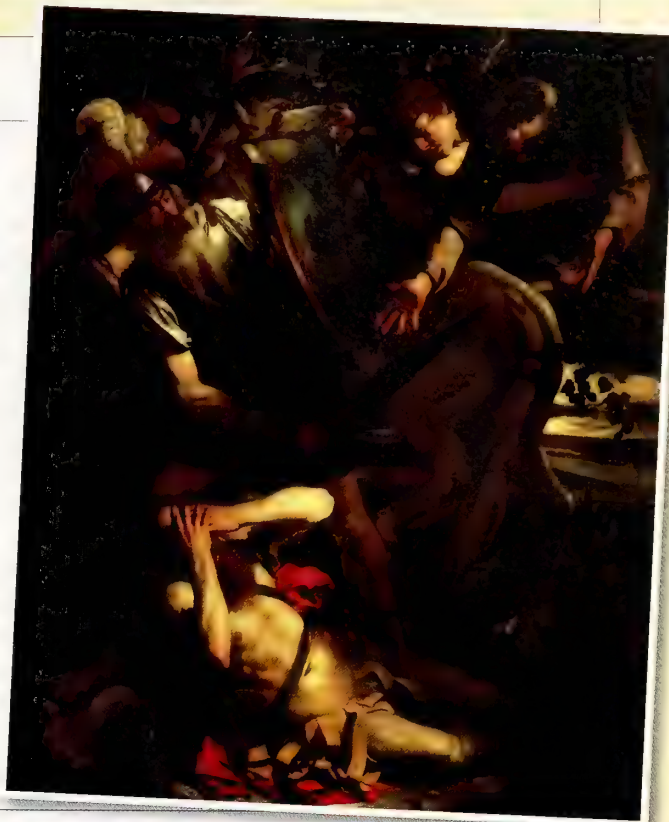
You have invited me to the marriage banquet. *Join my whole self to yours.*

You have held nothing back from me. *May I hold nothing back from you.*

You have ... **(Add a phrase specific to your life.)**

O God, you are faithful and true. *May I be faithful to you in what I say and in what I do.*  
 Amen.

– Fr. Bill Ashbaugh





**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour**, Jan. 5, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral, is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. While the VHH's are open to everyone, it will certainly be a unique opportunity for men and women discerning a church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment.

**Learn and Know your Faith!** Check out the great courses available online through the University of Notre Dame: <http://step.nd.edu> Contact Robert Jones to learn about the 40 percent discount for everyone in the Diocese of Raleigh. Telephone 821.9740 or e-mail: Rob.Jones@raldioc.org

**Evangelization and Catechesis Leadership Retreat**, Jan. 8-10 at Trinity Center in Salter Path. Jeanne Hunt, author of *Holy Bells and Wonderful Smells*, will facilitate. For information, contact Linda Bedo at [bedo@raldioc.org](mailto:bedo@raldioc.org).

**Diocesan Martin Luther King Mass & Luncheon**, Jan. 13, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.. The Martin Luther King Holiday weekend will be celebrated with a Mass at 10 a.m., with the Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge as celebrant and Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden as homilist. The Mass and luncheon will be celebrated at St. Mary Catholic Church, 1000 N. Jefferson Avenue Goldsboro, NC.

**Rally for Life – Raleigh**, Jan. 13, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Join others in promoting the dignity of life at Moore Square on Jan. 13 at 1 p.m. Bishop Burbidge will open the rally with an invocation. Participants will be invited to march through the streets of Raleigh. The event is sponsored by NC Right to Life. For more information, contact Sister Joan Jurski, 919.821.9751 or [Jurski@raldioc.org](mailto:Jurski@raldioc.org).

**A Chocolate Affair**, a silent auction featuring chocolate treats to benefit Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh, Inc., will be held Jan. 20, 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. at St. Patrick Church, 2840 Village Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28304. For more information, contact Lou Orban, 910.424.2020 or [louis.orban@raldioc.org](mailto:louis.orban@raldioc.org).

**Priesthood Discernment Group**, Jan. 20, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Doggett Center at Aquinas House (NCSU), 600 Bilyeu St., Raleigh. The Priesthood Discernment Group provides a comfortable and safe place to discuss your thoughts and feelings about a possible call to the priesthood. The group discusses issues central to the call within the context of prayer and mutual support. If you think this group may be for you, please call Fr. Alex at 919.833.9668 or e-mail him at [jagonza3@ncsu.edu](mailto:jagonza3@ncsu.edu).

**March for Life**, Washington, D.C., Jan. 21-22, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Bishop Jugis, Diocese of Charlotte, and Bishop Burbidge, Diocese of Raleigh, will celebrate Mass at the National Basilica at 10 a.m., Jan. 22. For more information contact Sister Joan Jurski, 919.821.9751 or [Jurski@raldioc.org](mailto:Jurski@raldioc.org). or visit the calendar of events at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org).

**Encounter with Christ Young Adult Retreat**, Jan. 26-28 at the Short Journey Center in Smithfield. Encounter Christ in a thoughtful and fun weekend with other 20- and 30-somethings from around the diocese. The weekend features activities, talks and small group discussions led by

other young adults. A tradition for more than 25 years in our diocese, many young adults attribute a growing of their faith to their Encounter. For information contact Salina Kohut, 919.357.5572 or [salina\\_kohut@myway.com](mailto:salina_kohut@myway.com).

**All That Glitters Dinner Dance**, Jan. 27 at the St. Paul Family Life Center, New Bern, NC. Realo & Carolina Home Medical will sponsor the event to benefit the Senior Pharmacy Program of Catholic Charities. The dance will feature a silent auction and music by Bruce Horton.

**Our Lady of Lourdes Parish School** is now accepting applications for the 2007-08 school year. Applications and personal tours can be arranged by contacting Pam Mueller, director of admissions, at 782.1670 ext. 4635 or [pmueller@olls.org](mailto:pmueller@olls.org). Our Lady of Lourdes Parish School will hold our next open house on Thursday, Feb. 1. Please call for times and/or directions.

**The Justice Theater Project** will present the play *Dead Man Walking*, based on the novel by Sister Helen Prejean, Feb. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10 at 7 pm, with a matinee performance on Sunday, Feb. 4 at 3 p.m. at the Cardinal Gibbons High School Performing Arts Center. Donations are accepted at all performances. No tickets are necessary, but reservations are required. For more information contact 215.0889, or go to [www.thejusticetheaterproject.org](http://www.thejusticetheaterproject.org).

**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour**, Feb. 2, March 2, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral.



## FIRST FRIDAY VOCATIONS HOLY HOUR

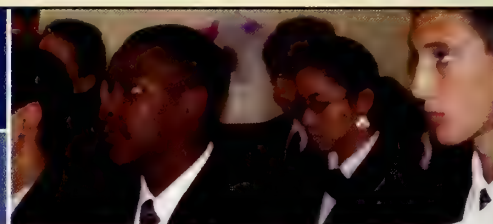
Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
and March 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Sacred Heart Cathedral

Praying for vocations  
to the priesthood and  
religious life in the  
Diocese of Raleigh.

Music & Confessions – 7:30 p.m.  
Holy Hour – 8:00 p.m.  
Music and reception to follow.

For more information  
or an application  
for the 2007 school year

[www.stmacademy.org](http://www.stmacademy.org)  
919-878-7640



## St. Thomas More Academy

– One of the top 50 best Catholic High Schools in the U.S. –

Invites you to attend Open House  
Sunday, January 14, 2007 2-4 p.m.

4641 Paragon Park Road / Raleigh, NC 27616

New campus opens in August! 3109 Spring Forest Road, Raleigh





**Encountering God in the Word** - for Small Groups, Feb. 3, 9 a.m. — noon at the Doggett Center at Aquinas House (NCSU), 600 Bilyeu St., Raleigh. Father Jude Siciliano, O.P., will offer participants a method for facilitating a vital encounter with the Word of God. This is the third session of a five-session course. The sessions are in English and Spanish. To register, e-mail [register@raldioc.org](mailto:register@raldioc.org) with contact info, or by regular mail: Registrar, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606.

**National Day of Prayer for Families of African Ancestry**, Feb. 4, 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the St. Alphonsus Center, Wilson. This is a National Day of Prayer for families of African descent. The day will be celebrated with prayer and song. The afternoon will end with a family meal. Contact Wilena McPhatter, 919.821.9762 or [mcphatterw@raldioc.org](mailto:mcphatterw@raldioc.org).

**Challenge** is a Friday-Saturday overnight retreat for grades 6-8. The retreat focuses on community building, self-esteem, Scripture and relationships with friends, family and Jesus. We will be offering this retreat at multiple sites Feb. 5-6, 2007. Cost: \$30 youth/adults. Contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or [Hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:Hagarty@raldioc.org).

**Jubilee Celebration of Sisters**, Feb. 7, 11 a.m. — 1 p.m., Sacred Heart Cathedral, Raleigh. Mass at 11 a.m. will be followed by a reception in the parish hall. All are invited to celebrate with the Sisters.

Get Ignited! 5th Annual **Ignited by Truth Catholic Conference**, Saturday, Feb. 17, 2007, 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m., Cardinal Gibbons Catholic High School, 1401 Edwards Mill Rd., Raleigh. Join us for a new line-up of dynamic Catholic speakers from around the country! Free Friday evening workshops! Register by Feb. 4 for discounted tickets: \$25 per adult and \$10 per college and chaperoned student (age 10+). Visit [www.ignitedbytruth.com](http://www.ignitedbytruth.com) for complete details and online registration. Group discounts and hotel packages are available. Questions: [ignited@ignitedbytruth.com](mailto:ignited@ignitedbytruth.com) or 919.878.5181.

**Priesthood Discernment Group**, Feb. 17, 9 a.m. — 1 p.m., at the Doggett Center, Raleigh.

Catholic Evangelization Event, Saturday, March 17, 2007. Volunteers needed to walk in the **Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade** with the Catholic Evangelization group One Bread Lay Apostolate. Distribute St. Patrick prayer cards. Everyone (Irish or not) is welcome to participate in this fun evangelization event in downtown Raleigh. Youth Groups can compete for the 2nd annual Catholic Youth Evangelization Award by making signs to carry, wearing Catholic Evangelist T-shirts, singing Catholic hymns or playing instruments, or performing a Catholic dance or cheer. For information, contact Karen Matthews at 919.708.6907 or Pat Nolan at 919.844.8105.

## 2006 Albert Schweitzer Award honors Sister Isaac

► Sister Mary Isaac Koenig, S.U., was recognized by UNC Wilmington as an Albert Schweitzer Honors Scholar on Nov. 9. This award is given annually to a person from the Cape Fear area who exemplifies the attributes or interests — music, medicine or the humanities — of Albert Schweitzer. Each scholar delivers a lecture to the freshman honors seminar and is recognized for his or her contributions to the region.

Sister Isaac began what is now called the St. Mary's Social Outreach Program, serving the needy of the Wilmington area. In 1991, inspired by St. Mary parishioners and at the urging of doctors within the parish, she began the St. Mary Outreach Clinic, now the Tileston Clinic, one of the area's largest self-supporting, nonprofit health clinics serving the working poor.

Sister Isaac was also instrumental in the development and construction of the Hadden Hall Apartments, HUD sponsored housing for low income senior citizens, as well as Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, a facility now housed in Grace Methodist Church that provides food for thousands of individuals and families.

Sister Isaac has served the community on the Board of Good Shepherd soup kitchen in the early years of its development and has been recognized for her work with many awards including the North Carolina Human Relations Award.

Today, St. Mary Social Outreach has 150 volunteers actively serving the poor by handing out food or cleaning and folding donated clothes. Within the past two years, Sister Isaac developed a program for diabetics which provides assistance with dietary needs, and she organizes volunteers who make sandwiches for patients at the Tileston clinic who are waiting for appointments.

## Eucharist-centered youth retreat March 23

► The John 6:35 Eucharistic Youth Retreat will convene at Cardinal Gibbons High School on Friday, March 23, and continue through the weekend. Based on the Gospel of St. John, Chapter 6, "I Am the Bread of Life," the Retreat includes Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, adoration, talks, music, catechesis, prayer, meditation and fellowship. The purpose of the retreat is to lead young people, through prayer and instruction before the Blessed Sacrament, to a personal encounter with the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Christ. The retreat is for anyone 13 to 30 years old. However, those under 18 must be chaperoned by an adult over 21. For groups, there must be one chaperone for every seven participants under 18. No one under the age of 13 will be admitted to the retreat.



Sr. Mary Isaac Koenig, S.U.  
(Photo by Fr. Bob Kus.)



Details are available at  
[www.inhisname.com](http://www.inhisname.com).







Bishop Burbidge posed in the OLPH School library with the acolytes who assisted him at the prayer service. **Inset:** An architect's rendering of the future Annunciation School. (Paul McInerney photo.)



## Eastern NC wants Catholic education

►► As the Catholic population of North Carolina continues to grow, the value of Catholic schools to North Carolinians of all faiths is more and more in evidence.

In November, Annunciation Catholic School in Havelock broke ground for a new facility. In December, calling Rocky Mount's Our Lady of Perpetual Help church and school a "jewel of our community," fundraisers announced an endowment of more than \$600,000 to fund scholarships, beautification and outreach at OLPH School.

On November 7, Bishop Burbidge joyfully proclaimed Annunciation to be the first school he had broken ground for in the Diocese of Raleigh. A crowd of almost 300 school children, parishioners and guests gathered on the same spot where Msgr. Francis Howard had built the first Annunciation school 50 years before, as the bishop shared his hope that the school would grow and continue to build on past success. The students concluded the event with a special blessing song for the Bishop and a reception meal prepared by parishioners.

Among those attending were U.S. Congressman Walter Jones, Msgr. Gerald Lewis, Msgr. James Jones, Fr. Hector LaChapelle and Annunciation School Graduate Fr. Tom Davis, pastor of Infant of Prague Church in Jacksonville. Fr. Ernest Ruede, Dean for the New Bern Deanery, along with Msgr. Michael P. Shugrue, Vicar General for the Diocese, Msgr. Frank Moeslein and Msgr. Michael Clay, also participated in the ceremony.

A prayer service and dinner at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Rocky Mount climaxed a fundraising drive which exceeded its goal of \$300,000 by more than 100%. "Since I became pastor in February," Fr. Philip Tighe explained, "many of our community leaders have expressed their support for a mission to strengthen our school. For 67 years the school has been an anchor for our town, turning out contributing members of our society in every faith. That success, and the understanding that



Annunciation school children meet their bishop. (Bill Fraser photo.) **Inset:** Bishop Burbidge blesses the site of the new Annunciation School in Havelock. (Paul McInerney photo.)



Chancellor Russell Elmayan and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Fedewa chat with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Principal William Pettus.

a strong downtown school contributes to a strong downtown, were key in mobilizing support."

At the dinner, Diocesan Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Fedewa read a letter from OLPH alumnus Gov. Michael Easley. "It was at Our Lady of Perpetual Help," the Governor wrote, "where I learned excellence in the virtues, and the love of God and country became rooted in my life... The dedication of the parents, nuns, priests, teachers and community leaders who serve has provided a true model for students and continues to make a difference in their lives."

Establishment of the endowment is the first part of a two-phase vision for OLPH, which now comprises grades pre-K through 5, Fr. Tighe says. The second is to provide a downtown alternative for middle school education for parents who are tempted to relocate in outlying districts.

Both OLPH and Annunciation were among five small schools with financial challenges whose debt was cancelled in 2005 by Bishop Joseph Gossman. OLPH had \$250,975 lifted off its shoulders, Annunciation \$300,000. That decision, coupled with the enthusiasm of the pastors, parishioners, and civic leaders who value Catholic educational excellence, helped make fundraising initiatives for both schools hugely successful.

## New site for St. Thomas More Academy

►► St. Thomas More Academy is moving to a new site in North Raleigh at 3109 Spring Forest Road. The Academy's enrollment grew by 45 percent this past year and the school plans to welcome more than 50 new freshmen in the coming fall. The three-acre campus consists of two buildings with 19,000 square feet for classrooms, science and art labs, a chapel, library, gymnasium, and offices.

The Academy will host an Open House reception on Sunday, Jan. 14, from 2 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 4641 Paragon Park Road, Raleigh. St. Thomas More Academy is a diocesan-approved, independent Catholic high school.

For more information, go to [www.stmacademy.org](http://www.stmacademy.org) or call 919.878.7640.



## St. Ann Church Featured in *Triangle East*

►► *Triangle East*, a glossy consumer magazine featuring people and businesses in Eastern Wake and Western Johnston counties, profiled Clayton's St. Ann Catholic Church in its Oct./Nov. 2006 issue. In an article emphasizing the parish's extraordinary growth, the magazine quoted St. Ann pastor Fr. Scott McCue: "We recognize that God has given us so many good things in this life, and we have the responsibility to give back to God."

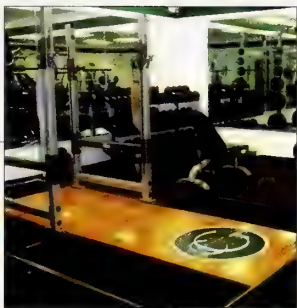
## A celebration of lay ministry

►► On Nov. 11, the first of what will be annual celebrations of anniversaries of employment for lay ecclesial ministers in the Diocese of Raleigh took place at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The event was coordinated and sponsored by RELM (Raleigh Ecclesial Lay Ministers); president for the Eucharistic Liturgy was the vicar general of the diocese, Msgr. Michael P. Shugrue. Pictured: Top row, L to R: Lani Beckwith (25 years, administrative assistant at St. Francis de Sales, Lumberton), Pam Alig (25 years, recently retired as director of faith formation at St. Therese, Wrightsville Beach), Tracy Kessler (10 years, director of youth ministry, St. Catherine of Siena in Wake Forest). Bottom row, L to R: Terri Ring (15 years, formerly director of the diocesan media center, parishioner at St. Michael in Cary), Jan Carnahan (10 years, director of religious education, plus 20 years as catechist, Good Shepherd, Hope Mills) and Debbie Rossi (10 years, diocesan director of stewardship and development).



## Cardinal Gibbons physical fitness center

►► Thanks to the generosity of a Cardinal Gibbons High School supporter, a new, state-of-the-art physical fitness center is now available to Cardinal Gibbons students.



## Good Shepherd Church, Hope Mills 25th Anniversary Mass

►► Bishop Emeritus Joseph Gossman, here with Fr. Thanh Nguyen, pastor of Good Shepherd Church, Hope Mills, was the principal celebrant at the parish's 25th Anniversary Mass on Nov. 19. The church overflowed as priests and musicians from several parishes in the area participated in the liturgy, which was followed by a dinner for all attending.



## PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE DECEASED PRIESTS DURING THE UPCOMING MONTHS

### JANUARY

Msgr. Charles J. O'Connor, 1976	Rev. Kenneth I. Parker, 1976
Msgr. Edward T. Gilbert, 1983	Rev. Kevin C. Fahey, 2002
Msgr. Michael A. Irwin, 1952	Rev. Bernard J. McDevitt, 1942
Msgr. Eugene H. Livelsberger, 1987	Msgr. Lawrence C. Newman, 1981
Rev. Charles E. Sweeney, 1958	Rev. Arthur J. Racette, 1975
Rev. Robert J. MacMillan, 1962	Rev. Thomas E. Curran, 1983
Rev. Cletus J. Helfrich, 1971	Rev. Philip J. O'Mara, 1975

### FEBRUARY

Rev. John G. O'Brien, 1997	Rev. Francis K. Brennan, 1962
Rev. Richard E. Barrett, 1959	Rev. Edward J. Beatty, 1990
Rev. Clarence F. Hill, 1966	Rev. Lawrence J. Hill, 1985
Rev. George A. Watkins, 1948	Rev. Vincent J. Mahoney, 1977
Rev. James W. Kennedy, 1970	Rev. Francis J. Tait, 1988

### MARCH

Rev. Eugene J. (Chip) O'Toole, 1996	Rev. James Gallagher, 1950
Rev. John H. Huston, 1976	Rev. John D. Kells, 1990
Rev. William McNulty, M.S., 1992	Rev. Elias Zaytoun, 1941
Rev. Francis J. Gorham, 1981	Rev. John M. Breunig, 1985
Rev. Francis J. Morrissey, 1949	Msgr. James E. McSweeney, V.G., 1999
Rev. Richard Harper, S.J., 1991	Rev. James E. Waters, 1996
Rev. Robert Wilken, 1993	Rev. Justin P. Pechulis, 1983
Msgr. William F. O'Brien, 1960	Rev. Aloysius Adler, 1954

NORTH CAROLINA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE COUNCIL

~ An invitation to inactive Catholics ~

## Welcome Home

Do you know someone  
who has been away  
from the Church?

Reach out  
to them and extend an  
invitation to come home.



### Date & Time

January 29 and  
February 5, 12 & 19

7:00 to 8:00 PM

### Location

Our Lady of Lourdes  
Fallon Center  
2718 Overbrook Dr.  
Raleigh, NC

For more  
information call:  
(919) 861-4614

### Welcome Home

Opening doors to inactive  
Catholics, listening to concerns,  
and inviting them back  
to the Church.

Invite a friend or loved one to attend

*All are welcome!*

A ministry sponsored by Sacred Heart Cathedral and Our Lady of Lourdes



**I**t's a beautiful fall day in a beautiful part of our state. The voices of children can be heard from the school playground outside the parish office. Msgr. Jeffrey Ingham, pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Southern Pines, is talking about his church's current big challenge, the construction of a new, regional school on 22 acres near Belle Meade, a nearby retirement community. "We call our school the John Paul II School, not the St. Anthony School," Msgr. Ingham explains, "because the plan is to serve the region, not just one parish." The new building is scheduled to open for the 2007-08 school



Catholic education at St. Anthony began with

Notre Dame Academy, started northeast of town in the 1940s by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. In 1942, the African-American parish on the west side of town opened Our Lady of Victory grade school, also staffed by Notre Dame Sisters. The academy closed in 1955, and St. Anthony constructed an elementary school and convent. Our Lady of Victory closed in 1961, when Bishop Waters integrated the parishes. St. Anthony School closed eventually, too, but reopened five years ago with its new name.

The parish is much older than its schools. It was founded in 1895, when there were fewer than 20 Catholics living in the Sandhills area; the first pastor, Father Peter Marion, oversaw the building of a small frame church. In the late 1920s the sanctuary was extended and two wings added, bringing the seating capacity to 175. With the coming of Pinehurst and the transformation of the Sandhills into a resort and retirement mecca, there were many Catholics visiting St. Anthony. But as late as the '40s, there were still only 70 resident Catholic families. Growth was inevitable, though. In 1973, the old church was razed and the current church constructed.

Today, Msgr. Ingham describes the Catholic presence in the area as notable and visible. "The people here are a great joy," he says. "We care.

the Diocese of  
**Raleigh**

**St. Anthony of Padua,  
Southern Pines**

**"We care"**

Parishioners are generous, involved in feeding the poor; they take a real interest in the social welfare of their neighbors. And they are involved in the Mass, they understand the liturgy." The parish has intensified adult faith formation efforts with a series of speakers on Catholic topics. Asked about the spiritual challenges of his parishioners, the pastor responds, "Simply living a Catholic life in today's world. Also, since there are many older people in the area, people need a profound understanding of our church's teaching on life issues, particularly end-of-life issues."

The pastor says his church will undoubtedly experience further growth. The proximity

of Fort Bragg means an increasing number of military families finding homes in the area. As in most of North Carolina, many Hispanic families are arriving. Msgr. Ingham praises the minis-

Visit St. Anthony of Padua online at:  
[www.st-anthony-of-padua.org](http://www.st-anthony-of-padua.org)

try of his parochial vicar, Father Bill John Acosta-Escobar, who works with the Spanish-speaking Catholics in the missions in Raeford and Robbins. And as the Baby Boom generation retires, the population of the Sandhills will swell. "Our challenge," Msgr. Ingham says, "is to be prepared." ✠

— Rich Reece

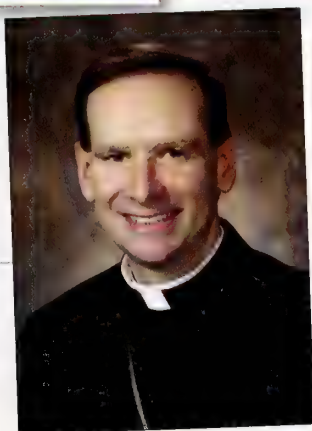






## Parishioners of the Diocese of Raleigh:

Since being installed as your Bishop on Aug. 4, 2006, I have come to realize that our diocese has been graced with many blessings – faithful priests and consecrated religious and lay leaders serving God and the people of our diocese, parishioners with a vibrant faith, a rapidly growing Catholic population, and the gifts of parishioners from different cultures and races. Through the dedication and generosity of our parishioners, the Diocese of Raleigh has been blessed with gifts of financial resources to be used wisely and prudently to advance the mission of the church. As your bishop, I am responsible for ensuring that we are good stewards of these gifts, and as part of that stewardship, I present this letter regarding the finances of the Diocese of Raleigh for the year ended June 30, 2006.



### Letter from the Bishop SPECIAL SECTION Annual Financial Report for the Diocese of Raleigh

#### Financial Audit

The independent accounting firm of Williams, Overman, and Pierce LLP audits the finances of the Diocese of Raleigh annually. Those financial statements can be found on the Diocesan Web site at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/who/diocese/audit/](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/who/diocese/audit/) so that all parishioners can have access to them. Those without access to a computer who would like a hard copy of the financial statements, or those who have questions on the audited financial statements can contact Russell C. Elmayan, diocesan chief financial officer, at [russ.elmayan@raldioc.org](mailto:russ.elmayan@raldioc.org). As in past years, the audit report is accompanied by an unqualified opinion. This indicates that the auditors believe that the financial statements fairly present the financial picture at the diocese. It is our policy operate within our means and to not to operate with a deficit budget. The diocese ended the year with a small surplus.

Virtually all of our expenditures are in support of parishes or parish ministry in some form or fashion – from the expenditures for seminary education and pastoral ministry, to the support from the Diocese of Raleigh for our local Catholic Charities, to the grants given to parishes and charitable institutions, to the parish loan and insurance fund, and the list could continue much further. All of our resources come, in some manner, from parishioners, either from *God's Work – Our Challenge* pledge payments, Bishop's Annual Appeal gifts, from parish assessments, or from wills, bequests, or other planned gifts. Therefore, as stewards of those resources, we are accountable to you, our parishioners.

#### Diocese of Raleigh

##### numbers

➔ In the last year in our diocese, **there were more than:**

5,800

baptisms,

4,000

first communions and over

2,100

confirmations

➔ Catholics now comprise

4.8%

of the population in an area where the Catholic population was below 1 percent of the population fewer than two generations ago.

#### Program for the Protection of Children and Young People

The diocese has been judged to be in full compliance with the Compliance Audit for the Protection of Children and Young People every year that the audit has been done.

In 1988, the Diocese of Raleigh adopted policies and procedures for responding to allegations of the sexual abuse of a minor by clergy. All settlements paid to victims have been for incidents alleged to have occurred before 1988. All of the incidents of alleged sexual abuse of a minor by clergy in this diocese have been identified as having occurred before 1988 and the confirmed reports of such alleged incidents were made to the diocese after 1988, when the diocese had put the policies into place. Information on settlements during the 2005-06 year can be found in the notes to the audited financial statements on the diocesan Web site.

No funds from the Bishop's Annual Appeal, *God's Work – Our Challenge*, or parish savings accounts in the Diocesan Deposit and Loan Program have been used to pay any child sexual misconduct claims, legal fees, or counseling costs. Included along with the audited financial statements is a validation by the auditors that the accuracy of this statement has been tested for the 2005-06 year. These funds have been paid from either unrestricted reserves or the diocesan self-insurance fund that covers these and many other liability and casualty claims. Parishes contribute to this self-insurance fund. No funds have been sent to any other dioceses in other states to help them pay for claims for child sexual misconduct.

The diocese is committed to protecting and safeguarding our children and youth and we need the active participation of all our people to identify and report even suspected incidents of abuse in the past, the present or the future.



## Diocesan Growth and Initiatives

In addition to our financial prudence, there are many signs that our diocese is healthy and vibrant:

- The registered Catholic population of the Diocese stands at 201,657, which is 164 percent higher than the number in 1990. The total population of Eastern North Carolina has grown by 34 percent during that same time period.
- Catholics now comprise 4.8 percent of the population in an area where the Catholic population was below 1 percent of the population fewer than two generations ago.
- In the last year in our diocese, there were more than 5,800 baptisms (vs. 1,600 in 1990), 4,000 first communions (vs. 1,500 in 1990), and over 2,100 confirmations (vs. 885 in 1990).
- The diocese has an Office of Child and Youth Protection, staffed by a qualified director, to proactively educate parish ministers, teachers, parents, and parishioners about providing safe environments for children and young people and how to respond to any allegations of past or current misconduct.
- As of November 2006, 29,797 adult employees, volunteers, and parents have been trained in the diocese in recognizing and reporting child abuse and neglect.
- As of November 2006, 2,907 employees and 4,154 volunteers have had criminal background screening checks performed to ensure they do not have anything we know about in their past that would preclude them from being able to serve in their roles.
- We are actively working with Prevent Child Abuse – North Carolina and the NC District Attorneys Association on prevention and reporting of any allegations of sexual misconduct with minors.
- Our Catholic Schools are educating more than 8,600 students across the diocese, and over 30,500 children and adults are actively involved in faith formation programs in parishes across the Diocese.
- Catholic Charities had more than 32,000 occasions to serve people, regardless of religious affiliation or station in life, as part of our call as disciples of Jesus to serve all, especially the least among us.
- The Diocesan Deposit and Loan program has 113 loans totaling more than \$63 million to parishes throughout the Diocese in support of construction of new schools, churches, and education buildings. Parishes in the Diocese of Raleigh have over \$34 million on deposit in 377 savings accounts with the Diocese. The Diocese has borrowed

**The registered Catholic population of the Diocese stands at 201,657, which is 164% higher than the number in 1990. The total population of Eastern North Carolina has grown by 34% during that same time period.**

### Diocese of Raleigh

#### numbers

As of November 2006,

29,797

adult employees, volunteers, and parents have been trained in the Diocese in recognizing and reporting child abuse and neglect.

Catholic Charities had over

32,000

occasions to serve people, regardless of religious affiliation or station in life, as part of our call as disciples of Jesus to serve all, especially the least among us.

more than \$40 million from banks to provide financing for parish loans. The moratorium on parish loans, enacted in 2005, has been lifted.

- Even after a decade of unprecedented expansion of facilities to serve the people of God, there continue to be several parishes in the planning process to construct new facilities to meet the needs of our expanding Catholic population.

God has indeed richly blessed the Diocese of Raleigh.

**Even after a decade of unprecedented expansion of facilities to serve the people of God, there continue to be several parishes in the planning process to construct new facilities to meet the needs of our expanding Catholic population.**

## In appreciation

I thank the dedicated members of our Diocesan Finance Council for their steadfast service and excellent advice. Our 14 member council meets monthly and comes from parishes across the diocese. It is composed of three priests and 11 lay professionals who graciously give their time and expertise in service of the church.

I am grateful to God for the privilege of being your bishop, and I thank the many parishioners who have so graciously and warmly welcomed me to the diocese. Please be assured of my prayerful support for all of you and for the Diocese of Raleigh.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
Bishop of Raleigh  
12/01/06



## Looking for Answers to Your Estate Planning Questions?

I have questions about my Will.  
How do I make a bequest to the Church?

Do I need a Trust?

Will a Charitable Gift Annuity provide me with income for life?

Can I increase my income and make a gift to my Church?

Are there benefits to donating stock or real estate?

What documents do I need to protect myself and my family?

To request information to help answer these questions,  
fill out the form and check the topics in which you are interested.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date(s) of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me information on:

- ☐ Wills
- ☐ Making a Bequest
- ☐ Trusts
- ☐ Charitable Gift Annuities
- ☐ Gifting Securities
- ☐ Gifting Real Estate
- ☐ Documents Needed for My Estate Plan
- ☐ Other (Please list topic) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Debbie Rossi  
Diocese of Raleigh  
715 Nazareth Street; Raleigh, NC 27606  
rossi@raldioc.org

Visit our Estate Planning Web Site:

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.



## ICSC Regional Stewardship Day Conference

Join the Diocese of Raleigh, Archdiocese of Atlanta,  
Diocese of Charlotte, Diocese of Savannah, and Diocese of Charleston

Featuring our Keynote Speaker

**Charles Zech**

Professor of Economics at Villanova University

Author/Co-Author of 75 books and articles including:

- "Why Catholics Don't Give .. And What Can Be Done About It" • "Plain Talk About Churches And Money"
- "Money Matters: Personal Giving In American Churches"

**Mark Your Calendar!**  
**Saturday, April 28, 2007**

**9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. • Embassy Suites, N. Charleston, SC**





# your church at your fingertips

✦ **breaking, detailed diocesan news**

✦ **complete events calendar**

✦ **podcasting** ✦ **parish links**

✦ **Bishop's weekly gospel reflections –  
video and print versions**



Go Now to  
**www.dioceseofraleigh.org**

**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514  
95219 P 13 1146  
UNC CHAPEL HILL SERIALS DEPARTMENT 34  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE

OF THE CATHOLIC

DIOCESE OF

RALEIGH

www.NCCatholics.org

ya que usted lo pregunta...  
¿Cómo comenzó el tiempo de Cuaresma?

since you asked  
"How did the season of Lent come about?"

# NCCatholics

March 2007

\$3.00

NORTH CAROLINA CATHOLICS  
MARCH FOR LIFE

feature

## SOUL COMPANION

LOOKING FOR A MORE SPIRITUAL LENT?  
MARY PAT BARTH CAN HELP

parish profile

"Blessed are we..."  
Holy Trinity, Williamston

What does  
the church teach  
**SPECIAL REPORT**  
about embryonic  
stem cells?

LENT 2007



**R**ejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen! . . . What good would life have been to us, had Christ not come as our Redeemer?



These words are sung every Easter Vigil in celebration of the great feast of the Resurrection. As Catholics, we know the Easter Vigil is the greatest of all our liturgical celebrations because it celebrates the greatest event in the history of the world: Christ's resurrection from the dead; the definitive victory over sin and evil.

We know and believe this, but we struggle as sinners to keep this truth first and foremost in our hearts and actions each day of our lives. The Church knows this, as well. She is concerned that we not allow this fundamental truth to be neglected or forgotten. Thus, the Church calls us to an annual spiritual journey of reflection, conversion and renewal; a journey we call Lent.

In this sacred season, the Church invites us to renew in our lives the disciplines of *prayer*, *fasting* and *almsgiving* so that we may experience a radical transformation and conversion of mind, body, soul and spirit. As you devote yourself to these disciplines, try each day to allow more time for solitude and prayer. Consider attending week-day Mass, in addition to the Sunday obligation. Repent of sin and celebrate the precious gift of God's mercy in the sacrament of penance. Fast from material things you do not need and reach out in love to those in most need and so often forgotten.

**In this sacred season, the Church invites us to renew in our lives the disciplines of *prayer*, *fasting*, and *almsgiving* so that we may experience a radical transformation and conversion of mind, body, soul and spirit.**

Pray the Rosary on a daily basis, especially for the intention of peace throughout our world and within our hearts. Consider making the Stations of the Cross each Friday. The Lenten disciplines and spiritual practices of

the church help us to be renewed in our awareness of the reason the angels and all creation exult around God's throne; they also help us to remember what we can so easily forget: That life would have no meaning for us if Christ had not come as our Redeemer!

It is my hope and prayer that this holy season will lead you closer than ever to an awareness of how precious you are to God and the great love He has demonstrated in giving us His only Son, Jesus

Christ, who suffered, died and was raised from the dead *for us!*

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is Bishop of Raleigh.

**Lent**  
an invitation to renewal



# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

## since you asked ...

**6** Dear NCC: "How did the season of Lent come about?" – Fr. James Garneau

## from the editor

**5** Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.  
– Rich Reece

## parish poll

**7** When have you practiced self-discipline?

## theology 101

**8** What did Jesus know? Did he know he would die? A conversation in Christology with seminary professors.  
– Elizabeth Solsburg

## voices in our church

**11** The example of Martin Luther King  
– Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
**11** Cuaresma Que Se Recorre, Pascua Que Se Vive – Padre Fernando Torres

## your marriage matters

**20** He says: "I don't want to support her deadbeat relatives." She says: "My brother lost his job – we have to help." What do they do?  
– Tom and JoAnn Fogle

## spiritual fitness

**22** Penance  
What does penance really mean, and why is it important for us? – Fr. Bill Ashbaugh

## parish profile

**30** "Blessed are we..."  
Holy Trinity, Williamston – Rich Reece

## cover story

►► **Soul Companion**  
Looking for a more spiritual Lent? Mary Pat Barth can help.

What does  
the church teach  
**SPECIAL REPORT**  
about embryonic  
stem cells?

26

►► **NC Catholics** talks about embryonic stem cell research with Marie T. Hilliard, director of bioethics and public policy at the National Catholic Bioethics Center.

28

**12** **feature** ►►  
**North Carolina Catholics** March for Life

**16** **el hispano católico**  
**La vida religiosa en nuestras propias palabras**  
Ocho hermanas comparten su perspectiva de 390 años de servicio fiel.

**18** **Ya que usted lo pregunta...**  
**¿Cómo comenzó el tiempo de Cuaresma?** – Padre James Garneau

**19** **Obispo Burbidge**  
**La Cuaresma: Una invitación a la Renovación**  
– Obispo Michael F. Burbidge





# NC Catholics

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
Director of Communications

March 2007 • Vol. 3 : Issue 2

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Fr. James Garneau  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Fr. Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Irene Gonzalez  
TRANSLATOR

EW Photography (cover)  
Denmark Photography  
Hutzler Photography  
Frank Morock  
Holly Stringer  
Brad Watkins  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

## FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Enomhen Odigie  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Jillane Job  
SUBSCRIPTIONS/SECRETARY

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Derek Melot  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail [ncctr@raldioc.org](mailto:ncctr@raldioc.org). Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™. Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

## Bishops urge stem cell education

▶▶ Bishop Burbidge is asking the Catholic faithful in the diocese to become informed on the issue of stem cell research and prepare to join him in defeating a bill that is expected to come before the North Carolina House of Representatives soon.

Over the last two years, a House health subcommittee has been studying the question of funding embryonic stem cell research and allocating taxpayer money for stem cell research grants within the state. Through the efforts of several pro-life organizations, especially those connected with the Diocese of Raleigh, a pending proposal was significantly weakened. The proposal states that the ethics of stem cell research must be incorporated into any discussion regarding its funding, and did not include any recommendations regarding state funding of stem cell research. This was a significant victory, but the more difficult challenge lies ahead once the General Assembly convenes this month.

In preparation for pending legislation that will likely recommend state funding, Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte, have sent a joint letter to all pastors in North Carolina urging them to acquaint their parishioners with the Catholic Church's teaching on stem cell research, especially those aspects that violate the Church's moral teaching. The pastors also received documents regarding stem cell research to insert in parish bulletins. The three statements are available in the Respect Life page on the diocesan site at [http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/respect\\_life/](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/respect_life/) and at the links below:

### ▶ Introduction to the Ethics and Science

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/peace\\_justice/StemCellPart1.pdf](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/peace_justice/StemCellPart1.pdf)

### ▶ Myths and Facts of Stem Cell Research

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/peace\\_justice/StemCellPart2.pdf](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/peace_justice/StemCellPart2.pdf)

### ▶ A Call to Action

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/peace\\_justice/StemCellPart3.pdf](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/peace_justice/StemCellPart3.pdf)

(For more information on this issue, see p. 28.)

## Catholic Charities board seeking new members

▶▶ The Catholic Charities Board of Directors is recruiting candidates for membership on the board. This year, in order to balance the board, we are especially in need of candidates from the Cape Fear, New Bern, and Tar River deaneries, from smaller/rural parishes and from diverse ethnic and racial communities. Prospective members will be proven leaders who have time, experience and skills that will complement others on the board. Identified areas of need are board development, finance, resource development and public relations. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in serving on the Board of Directors please go to <http://catholiccharities.dioceseofraleigh.org> for a candidate information form.



Bishops Peter Jugis of Charlotte and Michael Burbidge of Raleigh at the Rally for Life in Raleigh on Jan. 13.

## New young adult ministry director appointed

Dr. Terry Jackson, diocesan director of evangelization and catechesis, has announced the appointment of Kathleen Kozak as diocesan director of young adult ministry.

Kozak, who has been coordinating Young Adult Ministry efforts at St. Patrick Parish in Fayetteville, has pastoral experience working in several military parishes and is in the final stages of completing her master's of pastoral studies from the University of Dallas, Texas. She has completed her certificate in young adult ministry through the Center for Ministry Development, and completed five of eight classes toward her Certificate for Youth Ministry. She was awarded her advanced catechist certification through the Diocese of Raleigh and is in the final steps of master catechist certification.

Kozak lives in Hope Mills, and is married to Bryan, a physician's assistant in the U.S. Army. The couple has three young children. She succeeds former Young Adult Ministry Director Michele Castle, who resigned in December so that she and her husband can home-school their children.



Kathleen Kozak



Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730



**I**t's easy to think of Lent as a gloomy, austere time, but I always associate this season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving leading to Easter with the anticipation of spring. That's not just because of its place on the calendar, but because it's a time when my soul, like the landscape, can feel the stirrings of a fresh start. I can examine my prayer life: Does my prayer make me feel closer to God? It's an opportunity to plan some spring cleaning in the place where I keep my priorities: How much time do I spend wanting or chasing after things which are about this world, when I know very well that, in a short time, I will be in another? That's one of the purposes of fasting: It reminds me that the demands of my body are only that, and that my soul needs more. And giving of my treasure and time to others is another

great way to check on what matters to me. If I feel a tug of selfishness, then once again I am forgetting that this world is not my true home.

**How much time do I spend wanting or chasing after things which are about this world, when I know very well that, in a short time, I will be in another?**

For this issue we interviewed Mary Pat Barth, a spiritual director living in Wilmington, to discover some creative ways to make this Lent more meaningful and spiritual than the last one. "Lent is a time of repentance and prayer," Mary Pat told NCC. "And I think many of us can be more creative with our prayer and try different ways of praying. If one's prayer is working, one should be faithful to it, but some-

times we can get into ruts with prayer, and that can be a wonderful opportunity to try something new and different."

In this issue you'll also get to visit the Catholic community of Holy Trinity in Williamston. I hope the article on page 30 motivates some of you to visit that little church. Go to Mass, meet the parishioners afterwards over coffee. I think you'll feel, as I always do when I'm there, reminded of what a church community can be. It's a place (like many in our fortunate diocese) where the poor are welcome, a place of generous giving and grateful receiving by all.

This month you'll also see images of the recent March for Life in Washington, D.C. and the Rally for Life here in Raleigh. How moving to see so many standing enthusiastically to proclaim the holiness of all life from conception to natural death. Many of you participated in these events; maybe you'll recognize yourselves in our pictures!

Thanks as always for your feedback and ideas for stories in *NC Catholics*. I welcome your letters to me at 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606 and [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).

— Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.

**Prayer, fasting,  
almsgiving**





## Dear NCC: How did the season of Lent come about?

**P**ope Benedict XIV, in a letter addressed to the world's bishops, dated May 30, 1741, expressed his grief at the spirit of relaxation and excessive dispensation that had taken hold within the church with regard to the discipline of Lent. "The observance of Lent," he wrote, "is the very badge of the Christian warfare. By it we prove ourselves not to be enemies of the Cross of Christ. By it we avert the scourges of divine justice. By it we gain strength against the princes of darkness, for it shields us with heavenly help. Should mankind grow remiss in their observance of Lent, it would be a detriment to God's glory, a disgrace to the Catholic religion and a danger to Christian souls. Neither can it be doubted that such negligence would become the source of misery to the world, of public calamity and of private woe." Though the scholarly pontiff expressed an ancient sentiment of the church, the current discipline with regard to Lent is, perhaps, even more mitigated today than when he wrote those words.

The English word "Lent" derives from a Teutonic word for springtime. The Latin word for this holy season, *quadragesima*, meaning the "40 days" (more precisely, the "40th day"), appears to imitate the Greek term, *tessarakoste* (40th). Though some of the Fathers of the church (e.g., St. Jerome, St. Leo the Great, St. Cyril of Alexandria, St. Isidore of Seville, and others) held that this period, marked especially by fasting and abstinence, was of apostolic origin, there is little historical evidence to support this argument. There exists, rather, ample evidence

the celebration of Easter.

In many places in the early church, a pre-Easter fast for some period of time – up to a week – was apparently enjoined on catechumens, as well as on penitents seeking reconciliation with the church after having confessed to certain mortal sins. By the fourth century, a three-week period of preparation was in place in Rome. There is also evidence that by the mid-fourth century, a penitential fast of 40 days, in imitation of the Lord's 40 days in the desert, was expected for all Christians. At first, the period of fasting for a penitential season was not, in fact, precisely 40 days, in as much as Sundays were never observed as days of fasting. The six weeks of Lent provided, therefore, for 36 days, which Pope St. Gregory, and others, recognized as a "spiritual tithe," i.e., a 10th of the year's 365 days. At a later time, the days of the previous (seventh) week, beginning with Wednesday, were added, so as to provide for 40 days of actual fasting. The eastern Churches, in keeping with their ancient custom of never fasting on Saturday or Sunday, begin the Lenten observance some two weeks earlier.

The precise nature of the fast has also varied widely, but has never been so diminished as in contemporary universal church legislation and practice. Until 1966, with changes enacted by Pope Paul VI, fasting meant, as a minimum, only one full

meal a day. Up to two small meals ("collations") came to be permitted in many areas, and, eventually, allowed universally. (Until

1918, these were measured rather precisely.) In addition to a single meal, it was common in many times and places to abstain from all flesh meat, as well as from milk, eggs and cheese. The latter is still the law of the oriental churches, which even exclude fish for this period. But exceptions have almost always existed; for example, for laborers, the sick and even for students (lest they flag in the course of their studies!). In some periods and places, in the Western church, meat was allowed at the single meal of the day, on designated days (though never on Fridays or Ash Wednesday). Fasting and abstinence in various forms were also previously expected on all Fridays of the year, ember days (12 specially designated penitential days), Advent and the vigils of certain feasts.

The current universal legislation, as found in canon law (canons 1250-1253), follows the spirit of Pope Paul VI's 1966 apostolic constitution, *Paenitemini*. Emphasis is now placed on the responsibility of the individual member of the church to embrace penitential practices in his or her life, especially on the Fridays of the year, and during Lent. Only Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are now designated as days of fasting and abstinence (from meat) for all (except children, the elderly, etc.). In the current legislation, renewed encouragement is also given to works of charity and prayer as a way of marking penitential days and seasons. National conferences of bishops, with the approval of the Holy See, have the responsibility for legislating local (national) practices with regard to Lenten observance and other days of fasting and penance.

— Fr. James F. Garneau, Ph.D., is pastor of St. Mary's Church and Missions, Mount Olive.

dear NCC  
This month with Father James Garneau

to demonstrate a wide variety of traditions, both with regard to the length of the period and the ascetical practices expected of the Catholic faithful in the period prior to

► Send your questions to: "Since you asked ...", 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Or: [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org)



## "And that's the way it is." What year did Walter Cronkite retire?

▶▶ Walter Cronkite, the "most trusted man in America," officially retired, signing off the CBS Evening News for the last time and drawing an audience of nearly 17 Million viewers on **March 6, WHAT YEAR?**

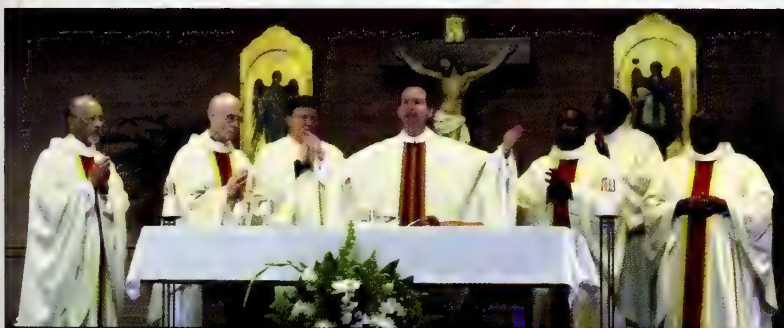


▶▶ She once sang that "the only boy who could ever teach her was the son of a preacher man." Aretha Franklin, a woman who would go on to win 15 Grammy Awards and become one of the biggest stars of international recording, was born on **March 25, WHAT YEAR?**

▶▶ St. Joseph's Day, a day on which swallows traditionally migrate back to Mission San Juan Capistrano in California (and have done so with little exception), originated on March **19, WHAT YEAR?**

▶▶ The horse that set three world, two American and three track records; and sired Battleship, War Admiral and War Relic, Man O' War, was foaled on **March 29, WHAT YEAR?**

Answers: 1981, 1942, 1776, 1917



Bishop Burbidge celebrated Mass at St. Mary's, Goldsboro, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King.

### Diocese remembers Martin Luther King, Jr.

▶▶ The Diocese of Raleigh paid tribute to the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with a Mass celebrated in his honor Saturday, Jan. 13, at Saint Mary Church in Goldsboro. Bishop Burbidge presided. Msgr. Thomas Hadden, vicar for African ancestry ministry and evangelization, was the homilist. At the end of the Mass, Bishop Burbidge added his own remarks in praise of Dr. King.

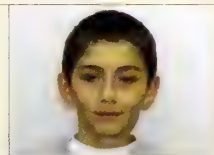
On Monday, Jan. 15, Bishop Burbidge provided the invocation and opening comments at the 26th Annual Martin Luther King Triangle Interfaith Prayer Breakfast, held at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Research Triangle Park. The bishop spoke of Dr. King's commitment to peace and justice, noting the late civil rights leader's focus was on the respect for individual liberty and for life.

## Practice makes perfect When have you practiced self-discipline?

This month we asked fifth-and-sixth grade students at St. Catherine of Siena School in Wake Forest: **Do you have a skill or do an activity that requires a lot of patience and self-discipline?**

### Trent, Grade 5

Football. I was a cornerback, and had to wait to see if the other team would pass or run. I had to practice running backwards or running after the runner.



### Paige, Grade 5

Playing the flute. It takes time and patience to learn all the notes, and I have to practice a lot. I love the flute.



### Ethan, Grade 6

A skill I have is being really good at being quiet. I can go on a long trip and not talk the whole time. It's very strange but very true.



### Katherine, Grade 6

I am an artist. When I work with canvases it takes lots of patience to get it perfect.



### Rhett, Grade 6

I do skateboarding. It takes a lot of patience and practice to do better.



### Melissa, Grade 6

I'm a high blue belt in martial arts. It's a lot of hard work, but it pays off.



## John 6:35 — Eucharistic Youth Retreat

will be held in

Wake Forest at the Franklin Academy

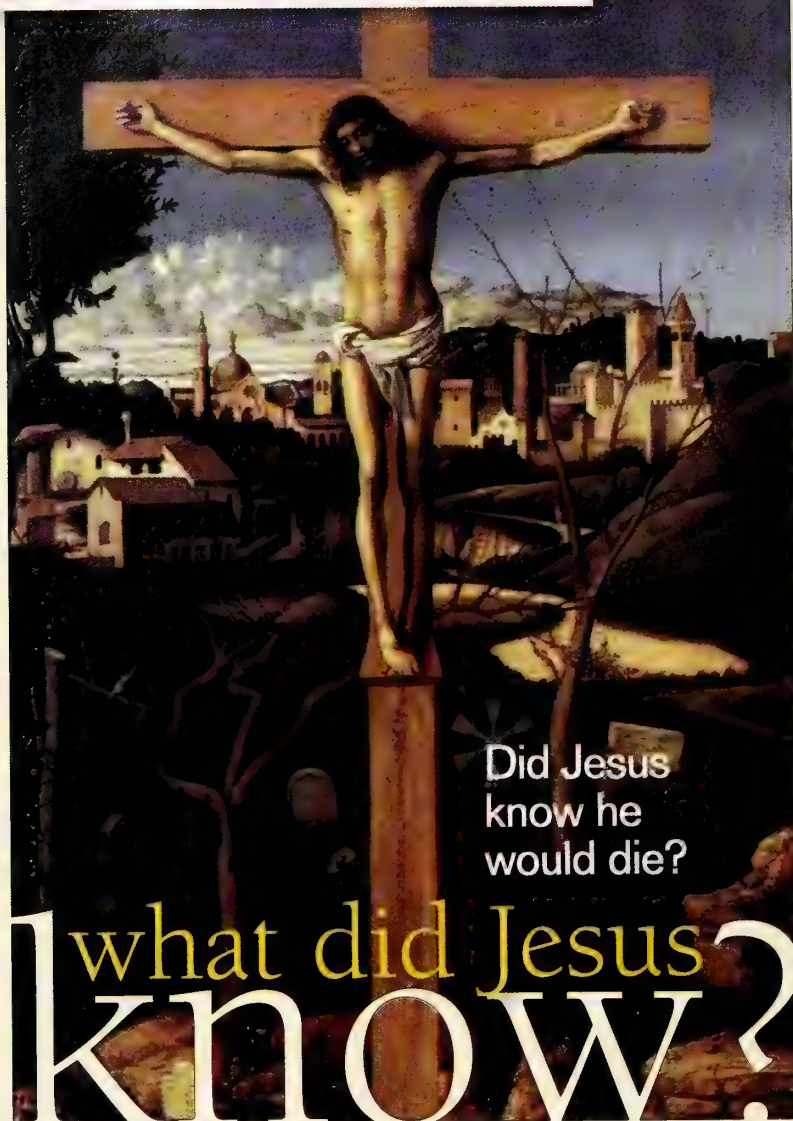
March 23, 24 & 25, 2007

Stay updated and  
Register NOW at  
[www.InHisName.com](http://www.InHisName.com)

For more info call:  
(919) 365-3763







Did Jesus  
know he  
would die?

# What did Jesus know?

**T**his year, *NC Catholics* is exploring Christology – the study of Jesus Christ. We asked several eminent seminary professors some questions about Jesus. Their answers are enlightening and thought-provoking.

## Meet the professors



Father Acklin



Father Muller



Father Stevens

**Father Thomas Acklin** is a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa. He is a graduate of Duquesne University, St. Vincent Seminary, The Catholic University of Louvain and Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Institute.

**Father Earl Muller** is The Bishop Kevin M. Britt Professor of Theology/Christology at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. He formerly taught at Marquette University in Wisconsin.

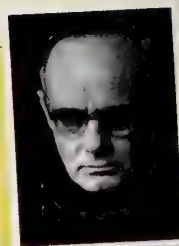
**Father Gladstone Stevens** is on the faculty of St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.

## FAITH: Did Jesus know he was going to die? Did he know he was the son of God?

**Father Muller:** Yes. Human consciousness is brain-based. The minute we understand that, then we know Jesus' consciousness had to develop as his brain developed. Then it's easier to say he developed the way human children develop. He would learn language and Bible stories like all children. As soon as Jesus was humanly conscious, he was conscious of who he is. We all have that kind of awareness that we cannot always put into words. For example, boys and girls experience themselves as boys and girls from infancy, but they cannot put that into words until they have learned language and had experience of others.

**Father Stevens:** This is a difficult question. There are various ways we know things in this world. The way I know mathematical formulae is different from the way I know Beethoven's music is beautiful or that we love. Knowing is more than factual knowledge and always has an element of faith about it. Jesus' way of knowing was perfectly human – it was a vocational kind of knowledge. But Jesus adhered perfectly to the will and voice of God. According to Ray Brown, there is nothing in Scripture to indicate that Jesus' self-knowledge was supernatural. Rather, God's perfect knowledge limited himself out of love for us.

**Father Acklin:** Yes, Jesus had to know both of those things. But how did he know them? If he was fully aware of his divinity and knew he was going to die, then was he really able to experience death? Cardinal Kasper, in his book *Jesus the Christ*,



theologian  
of the month

**Karl Rahner**  
(1904-1984)

**Karl Rahner, S.J., was an enormously influential theologian** who helped shape much of the thought of the Second Vatican Council.

**The heart of Rahner's theology** is that we are all open "from the roots" to the grace of God. Our fulfillment as human beings is found in the experience of God, as God truly is.

**Rahner conceived of Jesus' humanity as God's self-expression in history.** Generations after the "Jesus event", we experience him through the mediation of the church and the sacraments.

**Rahner's most famous work is** *Foundations of Christian Faith*, published as a series of theological essays near the end of his life.

**Who is Ray Brown?** Father Raymond Brown (1928-1998) was an eminent American biblical scholar who served



**Heresy!**

**Gnosticism: Jesus entered a human body**

►► **"I've got a secret!"** That's a crude, but succinct, synopsis of the Gnostic heresy. Gnosticism existed before the time of Christ, but was adapted by some early believers. The fictional Priory of Sion in *The Da Vinci Code* is an example of a Gnostic group.

**The Christian variation of Gnosticism taught that Jesus was sent to us to share secret, special knowledge.** As with the Docetists, Gnostics believed that matter was evil and that God could not associate with it. Therefore, he had children who created our world — one of these was Jesus. Gnostics believed that Jesus' divinity entered his human body at baptism and left him before the crucifixion — so that man and not God died on the cross.

**A principal proponent of Gnosticism was Marcion, who was the son of a bishop and may have been a bishop himself.**

He was expelled from the church for heresy, but his followers, the Marcionites, continued as a movement until the fifth century.

says that Jesus had divine knowledge that was pre-conceptual, but grew in his human

The way I know mathematical formulae is different from the way I know Beethoven's music is beautiful or that we love. Knowing is more than factual knowledge and always has an element of faith about it.

most theologians do, to speculate about his being somehow separated from his divine con-

science over time. It became more explicit in categories of human experience over time. I think that's a good solution. I don't think it's necessary, as

sciousness, or from the Father, in his crucifixion. Instead, imagine him hanging on the cross fully aware of the infinite love of the Father and at the same time being able to take in and suffer all the sin, death, suffering and agony of all people of all time. This is that agony of love.

**FAITH: Did Jesus really need to die in order to save us?**

**Father Stevens:** The whole purpose of everything is to unite humanity with God. Sin had broken up that harmony — we were supposed to be united with the world, each other, God. The sign of this is death — which enters into the



**what does that symbol mean?**

**Crucifix**

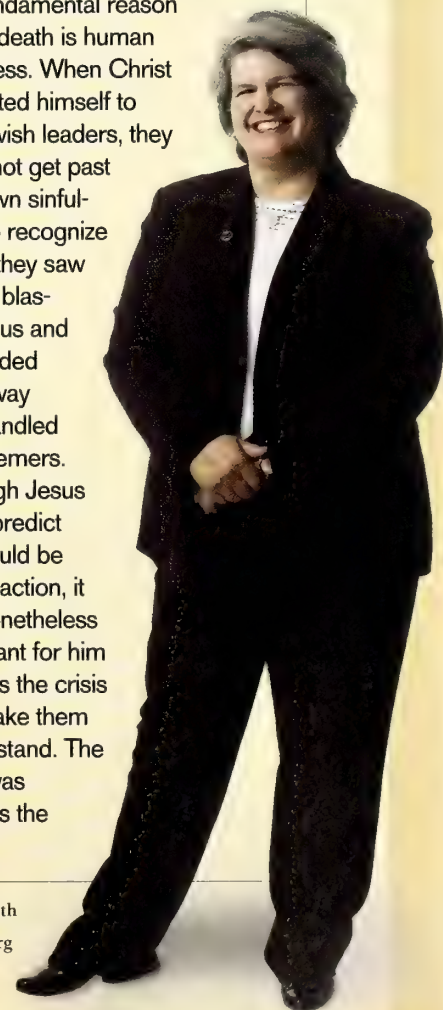
► The crucifix is a cross with the corpus, or body of Christ, depicted on it. It emphasizes Christ's sacrifice and is a reminder that "we preach Christ crucified." It became common in the sixth century and a crucifix is a required sanctuary furnishing in a Catholic church.

world through sin. It's the sign of our relationship breakage. Jesus dying removes that separation — he died because we died. That which is not assumed cannot be saved — even death can be redeemed.

**Father Acklin:** If Adam and Eve had not sinned, the incarnation probably still would have happened. It is an act of incredible intimacy and consummation of his love. It is even more important in view of the fact we did sin, because it repaired the breach that happened between God and us. As St. Anselm says, it's not simply God's condescension to us, it is God's covenant with us. We participate in the incarnation through Mary's "yes" to God.

**Father Muller:** Christ's death is certainly an effective way of showing the depths of God's love for us. The fundamental reason for his death is human sinfulness. When Christ presented himself to the Jewish leaders, they could not get past their own sinfulness to recognize him — they saw him as blasphemous and responded in the way they handled blasphemers. Although Jesus could predict this would be their reaction, it was nonetheless important for him to press the crisis and make them take a stand. The point was to press the truth.

— Elizabeth Solsburg



**Bible Quiz**

I am the first "third son" — who am I?

►► Turn to page 30 for the answer



**I am the original "third son" — and I never even met my older brothers.** Unfortunately, one of them was murdered by the other — and the murdering brother was sent to wander the wilderness. Given his history with brothers, that was OK with me. My name is Hebrew for "foundation" and people often consider me to be the foundation of the whole world — how cool is that?! I lived a good long life — I was 105 when my son was born and I died when I when I was 912. I have many famous descendants, including Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David and Joseph (Jesus' earthly father). You can read more about me in Genesis. **Who am I?**



## A bride at 13; a nun at 52 St. Frances of Rome

### Saint Frances of Rome

**Birthplace:** Rome

**Feast Day:** March 9

**Patron of** Oblates of Mary

★ **Claim to Fame:** Born in 1384 to a wealthy, noble family, Frances inherited a quiet manner from her mother and a strong will from her father. She was 11 when she knew what God wanted for her – she was going to be a nun. But her father promised her hand in marriage to Lorenzo Ponziani, a noble, wealthy and respectable man. After much stubborn prayer, Frances yielded to her father's will at age 13 and married Lorenzo. She thrust herself into the social life, expected of her, only to collapse from strain. She lay close to death, unable to eat, move or speak.

★ **What made her a saint:** Frances and her sister-in-law, Vannozza, became close friends and went to Mass together, visited prisons, served hospitals and set up a secret chapel in an abandoned tower of their palace, where they prayed together.

When disease brought famine to Rome, Frances insisted that no beggar was to be turned away. Her prayers caused the family granary to remain filled with corn, and the wine casks to refill miraculously. These incidents convinced her husband, Lorenzo, and his father that she was truly holy.

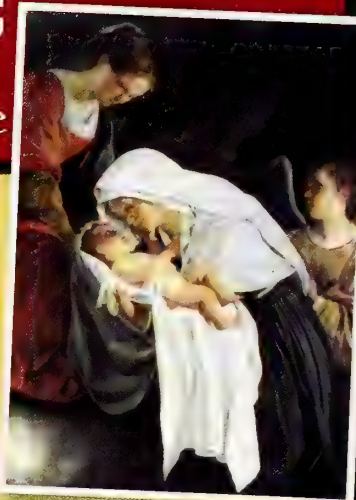
Frances lost both her son, Evangelista, and her daughter, Agnes, during a period of civil war. Her husband was broken in mind and body, and Frances nursed him back to health.

With Lorenzo's support, Frances started a lay order of women attached to the Benedictines, called the Oblates of Mary. They pledged to offer themselves to God and serve the poor. After Lorenzo's death, Frances moved into the house with the Oblates and was made the superior.

★ **Best Quote:** After Frances had collapsed right after her marriage, she had a vision of St. Alexis, who told her God was giving her an important choice: Did she want to recover or not? She whispered, "God's will is mine."

★ **How she died:** At 52, she lived the life she had dreamed of at the age of 11. She died four years later. Her last words were "the angel has finished his task – he beckons me to follow him."

★ **Prayer:** *Saint Frances of Rome, help us to see the difference between what we want to do and what God wants us to do. Help us to discern what comes from our will and what comes from God's desire. Amen.* – Jan Rynearson



### Santa Francisca Romana

**Lugar de Nacimiento:** Roma

**Día del Santo:** 9 de marzo

**Patrona de las Oblatas de María**

★ **Lo que la hizo famosa:** Nacida en el año 1384, en una familia rica y de la nobleza, Frances heredó la calma de su madre y la fuerza de voluntad de su padre. Cuando tenía 11 años supo qué era lo que Dios quería de ella – iba a ser monja. Pero su padre le concedió la mano de Francisca en matrimonio a Lorenzo Ponziani, un hombre noble, rico y respetable. Luego de mucha oración a los 13 años Francisca cedió ante la voluntad de su padre y se casó con Lorenzo. Se abocó de lleno a la vida social que se esperaba de ella, pero finalmente se desplomó por la tensión a la que estaba sometida. Quedó post-rada al borde de la muerte, incapaz de comer, moverse o hablar.

★ **Lo que la hizo santa:** Francisca y su cuñada, Vannozza se hicieron amigas íntimas y asistían juntas a Misa, visitaban las cárceles, servían en los hospitales e instalaron una capilla secreta en una de las torres abandonadas de su palacio, donde oraban juntas.

Cuando las enfermedades trajeron hambrunas a Roma, Francisca insistió en que no se rechazara a ninguno de los mendigos. Sus oraciones hicieron que los graneros de la familia permanecieran llenos de maíz y que los cascotes de vino se rellenaran milagrosamente. Estos acontecimientos convencieron a su esposo Lorenzo y a su padre de que ella era verdaderamente santa.

Francisca perdió a su hijo Evangelista y a su hija Agnes durante un periodo de guerra civil. Su marido quedó quebrantado de cuerpo y mente pero Francisca lo cuidó hasta que se recuperó.

Con el apoyo de Lorenzo, Francisca fundó una orden laica de mujeres asociada con los Benedictinos, llamada Oblatas de María. Prometieron ofrecerse a Dios y servir a los pobres. Luego de la muerte de Lorenzo, Francisca se mudó a la casa de las Oblatas donde fue nombrada superiora.

★ **Su mejor cita:** Después de haberse desplomado justo después de su casamiento, Francisca tuvo una visión en la que Sant Alejo le decía que Dios la enfrentaba con una decisión importante: ¿Quería recuperarse o no? Ella susurró, "La voluntad de Dios es mi voluntad."

★ **Forma en la que murió:** A los 52 años de edad Francisca vivió la vida que había soñado a los 11 años. Murió cuatro años más tarde. Sus últimas palabras fueron: "el ángel ha finalizado su tarea – y me hace señas para que lo siga."

★ **Oración:** *Santa Francisca Romana, ayúdanos a ver la diferencia entre lo que nosotros queremos hacer y lo que Dios quiere que hagamos. Ayúdanos a discernir entre lo que proviene de nuestra voluntad y lo que proviene de los deseos de Dios. Amén.* – Escrito por Transline USA.



## The example of Martin Luther King

**I**n January, African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization celebrated Martin Luther King Day with a Mass on Jan. 12 in St. Mary Church, Goldsboro. Bishop Burbidge was the celebrant and I was the homilist.

When I finished my homily, I turned to write this article for *NC Catholics*. The theme of the March issue is self-control, and, I thought, What better example of self control, discipline and abandonment than Dr. King?

Stop and think. He was the son of a Baptist minister, who was pastor of an old and prestigious church in Atlanta. He was well educated in the Atlanta schools, at Morehouse College and Crozier Seminary and Boston University. He went into ministry in the Baptist Church. He was the husband of a beautiful, educated and talented lady; the father of three good-looking, talented children.

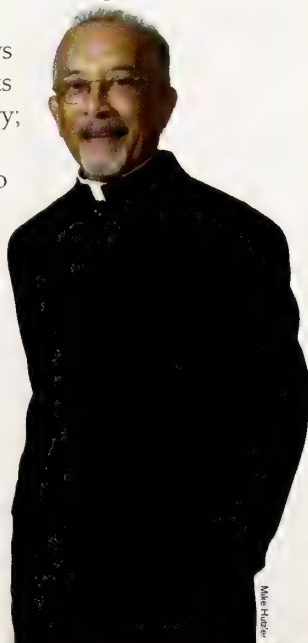
When Rosa Parks got tired of sitting in the back of the bus and moved up front, a revolution was ignited in our midst. All that was needed was a charismatic and eloquent leader. Dr. King stepped forward to lead the movement.

From the beginning of his leadership, he espoused non-violence, he taught non-violence and he acted non-violently. When he was threatened and besieged, his self control did not end; he did not resort to violence; he was disciplined, his followers were disciplined.

He abandoned himself to the movement; he abandoned himself to the teachings of the Gospel; he never wavered in his principles.

In Birmingham, those in Dr. King's movement vowed: "I hereby pledge myself, my body and my person to the non-violent movement. Therefore I will keep the following commandments: To meditate daily on the teachings and life of Jesus; to remember always that the non-violent movement seeks justice and reconciliation, not victory; to walk and talk in the manner of love, for God is love; to pray daily to be used by God that all men might be free; to observe with both friend and foe the ordinary rules of courtesy; to seek to perform regular service for others and for the world; to refrain from violence of fist, tongue or heart; to strive to be in good spiritual and bodily health; to follow the directions of the movement and of the captain on a demonstration."

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden



Mike Hadden

## Cuaresma Que Se Recorre, Pascua Que Se Vive.

**L**os tiempos que nos regala la Iglesia para vivir y acrecentar nuestra fe no están sujetos a los recuerdos y a las tradiciones del pasado, sino que deben estar conectados con nuestra realidad actual. Para continuar celebrando y viviendo los misterios de nuestra fe.

¿Cómo podríamos celebrar la Pascua sin haber vivido la Cuaresma? No podemos dejarles a los otros los ayunos, las penitencias y el compartir en la caridad. No podemos dejar en el olvido la meditación de un Jesús vivo y sufriente que camina hoy hacia la cruz. Tampoco podemos echar en saco roto la llamada del Dios misericordioso que nos invita a la conversión, a la reconciliación y al compromiso de amor. Si no recorremos este camino, ¿cómo podríamos llegar a la Pascua?

Por esto es necesario que nuestra vida de fe recorra el camino de la conversión que no es otra cosa que volver a Dios. Para recorrer este camino debemos despojarnos del hombre viejo y revestirnos como nuevas criaturas de la misericordia divina. Recorrer este camino implica descubrir en nuestro diario vivir, en nuestras relaciones con las otras personas, con Dios y con nosotros mismos las actitudes que deterioran y dañan la vida.

Recorrer este camino es revisar nuestras relaciones familiares, con los miembros de la Iglesia y de la sociedad. Teniendo en cuenta que no podemos justificarnos en un mundo que sucumbe en la muerte, la corrupción, la falta de justicia, en el olvido de los valores y en la falta de fraternidad. Pero debemos tener en cuenta todos estos males para comenzar a transformarlos desde nuestro corazón, desde nuestra fe y desde nuestras acciones.

Vivir la Cuaresma debe ser el esfuerzo y la tarea de cada persona y de cada comunidad de volver a la Iglesia, a la oración, a la Palabra de Dios y a la vivencia de nuestro propio Bautismo, para renovar nuestro compromiso de hijos de Dios, de cristianos y de miembros de la Iglesia.

Recorriendo la Cuaresma podremos llegar a la Pascua donde el triunfo de Cristo nos permite vivir la alegría de ser parte del pueblo de Dios, siendo sus testigos y compartiendo la Buena Nueva de la Salvación.

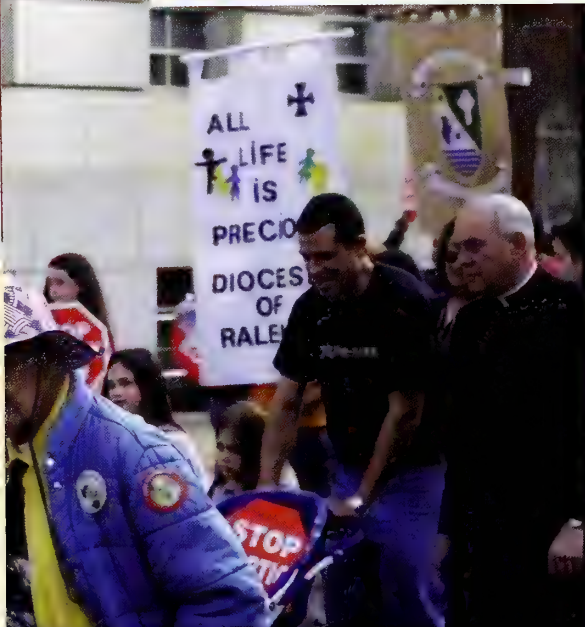
— Padre Fernando Torres



Mike Hadden







Brad Watkins, art teacher at Cardinal Gibbons High School, marches in Raleigh with Msgr. Jeffrey Ingham, pastor of St. Anthony of Padua, Southern Pines.



(above) Seminarian Michael Burbeck at the Raleigh Rally for Life. (below) Bishop Burbidge at the Mass for Life at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC.



# NORTH CAROLINA CATHOLICS MARCH FOR









Bishop Burbidge greeted youngsters as the march progressed. At the rally, he delivered the opening prayer.



Bishop Peter Jugis of Charlotte marched next to Bishop Burbidge.



Knights of Columbus led marchers past the State Capitol.



Demonstrators pledged allegiance to the flag and posed for group pictures in Nash Square.

## In Raleigh and D.C., rallies make powerful pro-life statements

**F**rom all over the state they came in January, first on a spring-like day in downtown Raleigh and a week later in frosty Washington, D.C., to demonstrate in defense of human life. Carrying banners, pushing strollers, singing and praying together, North Carolina Catholics in large numbers joined other advocates for life to bring public attention to the issues of abortion, embryonic stem cell research, the death penalty and all the instances where society and public policy devalue the human person. In Raleigh on Saturday, Jan. 13, Bishop Michael Burbidge joined Bishop Peter Jugis of Charlotte and more than 300 people who attended a rally at Nash Square,





**(left)** One of five buses which carried North Carolina Catholics to Washington. **(right)** Fr. David Brockman, pastor of St. Patrick, Fayetteville.

followed by a march to the State capitol. The following weekend, both bishops led a large contingent of North Carolinians to Washington, D.C., for the 34th annual March for Life on Monday, Jan. 22. Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Jugis concelebrated in a Vigil Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday evening. The following morning, the faithful from the Dioceses of Charlotte and Raleigh gathered for Mass at the main altar in the Basilica of the National Shrine, where Bishop Burbidge was the principal celebrant and Bishop Jugis the homilist. The march following the Mass drew tens of thousands from across the nation.

Bishop Burbidge urged those unable to travel to Washington for the Mass and the march to join in solidarity, through individual or communal prayer, with those who made the trip.



Prior to the march, Bishop Burbidge celebrated the Holy Mass for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.



Bishop Burbidge entering the Basilica.



**(left)** Youth from Cardinal Gibbons High School with Bishop Burbidge. **(center)** Seminarians Michael Burbeck **(foreground)** and Juan Manuel Lopez served at acolytes at the Life Mass. **(right)** Anna and Holly Stringer of St. Mary, Garner, with Fr. Dan Oswald, pastor of Annunciation, Havelock.



**E**l 10 de febrero, la Diócesis de Raleigh hará un reconocimiento a ocho religiosas de diferentes órdenes religiosas, cuyas experiencias acumuladas representan casi cuatro siglos de vida consagrada. En éste su año de jubileo, nos contaron sobre sus comunidades, sus familias y las alegrías que han descubierto en la vida religiosa.



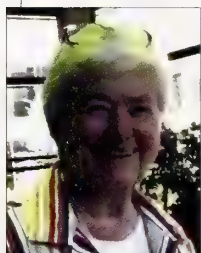
**La Hermana Mary Peter Meckel, S.P. – 60 años**

La orden a la que pertenezco es la Congregación de las Hermanas de la Providencia de Holyoke, Massachussets. Fue fundada por la Madre Mary of Providence Horan y está basada en la espiritualidad de

San Vicente de Paúl. Buscamos revelar en la Iglesia el misterio de la providencia de Dios, llevando la esperanza a los necesitados por medio de los ministerios de la sanación, atendiendo particularmente los lamentos de los pobres y los oprimidos. Comenzamos trabajando con los huérfanos en Holyoke, Massachussets, luego abrimos los comedores comunitarios y otros servicios para los pobres en Massachussets.

En Carolina del Norte he sido tutora de niños en la escuela elemental, en particular de los niños hispanos en Red Springs. Todos estos ministerios han sido de gran importancia y sacrificio para mí. Mis experiencias en Massachussets me ayudaron con los programas en Red Springs.

Al mirar atrás 60 años, me doy cuenta que lo que me ha sostenido es mi confianza en la Providencia y el apoyo de mi comunidad. Mi traslado a Carolina del Norte enriqueció mi vida, me ha ofrecido nuevas experiencias y oportunidades de conocer y vivir con gente de otras culturas, antecedentes y creencias.



**La Hermana Lois MacGillivray, S.N.J.M. – 50 años**

Pertenezco a la congregación de las Hermanas de los Santos Nombres de Jesús y María. La orden fue fundada por la Bendita Marie Rose Durocher. Su lema fue "El desarrollo total de la persona humana." Lo que me atrajo a

esta comunidad fue la educación maravillosa que recibí de las hermanas cuando estaba en la escuela secundaria. También me impactó su vivacidad y su buen humor.

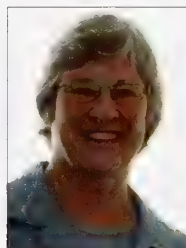
En el transcurso de 50 años he servido en las escuelas de educación elemental, como presidente de una

# La vida religiosa en nuestras propias palabras

## Ocho hermanas comparten su perspectiva de 390 años de servicio fiel

universidad y como investigadora en las Ciencias Sociales. Los años en que fui presidente de la universidad fueron los de mayor reto; es un trabajo de siete días a la semana con múltiples jurisdicciones. Ese papel me enseñó mucho.

La oración y el sentido de dirección de la mano de Dios me han mantenido firme en mi vida religiosa. Estoy agradecida por el apoyo de las otras hermanas que me han ayudado a aprender sobre la vida y la gracia y también por tener una vida que le da un espacio a la oración y a los ministerios constructivos. También por llevar una vida sencilla y conciente de los demás.



**La Hermana Shirley Ann Simpson, C.S.C. – 50 años**

Siento júbilo al celebrar 50 años de vida consagrada y de ministerio y

de estar en la Diócesis de Raleigh hace 25 años, en las parroquias de Our Lady of Lourdes y St. Raphael en Raleigh, en St. Stephen en Sanford, en Holy Family y en St. Mary Catholic School en Hillsborough.

Cuando estaba en el sexto grado, la hermana Marie Pierre, I.H.M. quien conocía a mi familia desde hacía muchos años, me dijo que ella pensaba que algún día una de las niñas Simpson sería hermana religiosa. Ella plantó la semilla. Las Hermanas de la Santa Cruz fueron mis maestras en la secundaria. Me sentí atraída por la comunidad y me sentí a gusto con su trabajo y con lo que aprendí de ellas.

Comencé mi ministerio como maestra de segundo grado. Desde

entonces he preparado cientos de niños para la Primera Comunión como maestra y como Directora Parroquial de Educación Religiosa. Mi ministerio preferido es la preparación para la Eucaristía de los niños un poco mayores. Sus padres se sienten mal porque según ellos "Estamos retrasados en hacer esto." Me encanta asegurarles que Nuestro Dios nos ama a todos y no le preocupa el tiempo y que siempre nos espera para darnos la bienvenida.

He podido llegar a este jubileo gracias a la seguridad del cuidado continuo de Dios en mi vida, al apoyo de mi comunidad, de la familia y los amigos y la inspiración de las personas que he conocido en el ministerio.

**La Hermana Mary Therese Brown, S.N.D. – 50 años**

Llegué a mi comunidad, las Hermanas de Notre Dame, motivada por el ejemplo que me dieron las hermanas que tuve como maestras, desde la primaria hasta la universidad. Me impactó su focalización en Jesús, su forma de vivir en comunidad, su amor por los demás y su amor por la Virgen María, su esmero en sus enseñanzas y el servicio a los demás.

Desde el llamado inicial y mi respuesta a la vida religiosa, mi vida ha sido enriquecida por la gente que he conocido, con los que he trabajado y a quienes llamo mis amigos. Disfruté la enseñanza en diferentes situaciones: dentro de la ciudad, en los suburbios, en el internado (13 años en Notre Dame Academy en Middleburg, VA) en escuelas de sólo





niñas o en escuelas mixtas. También encontré el Ministerio Pastoral como una forma de continuar la catequesis con los adultos. En mi actual ministerio en St. Andrew the Apostle en Apex, he recibido muchas recompensas, especialmente al acompañar a los nuevos católicos por el proceso de RICA.

Las cosas que me han sostenido en la vida religiosa incluyen el ejemplo de las Hermanas que me enseñaron y luego se convirtieron en mis amigas y consejeras; la oportunidad de crecer espiritualmente y profesionalmente; la oportunidad de compartir el conocimiento y el amor de aprender sobre la fe con cientos de estudiantes; también la oportunidad de compartir las jornadas de fe con los que han encontrado un hogar en la fe católica.

las visitas a los hospitales, buscar alimento para los necesitados y muchas otras bendiciones. Es tan fácil no reconocer el trabajo de misión en nuestro propio país. Trabajar con los hispanos durante los últimos diez años en Carolina del Norte ha sido una bendición.

He sido consejera durante más de treinta años y siento que éste es mi don. Amo a la gente y pongo mi corazón donde esté trabajando en ese momento. Nuestra Madre fundadora nos enseñó que la gente es un don especial que Dios nos da y mi meta es mostrarles la providencia de Dios con compasión, justicia, amor y alegría.

**La Hermana Teresa Marry, S.S.L**

**- 50 años**

La comunidad religiosa a la que pertenezco, las Hermanas



de St. Louis, se fundó en Francia en 1797. Entré a dicha comunidad en Monaghan, Irlanda. Después de profesar mis votos y con mi juventud desbordante me ofrecí de voluntaria para ir a nuestras misiones en el África. ¡Pero Dios tenía otro plan para mí y me asignaron venir a California! La mayor parte de mi vida la he dedicado al ministerio de la Educación en las Escuelas Católicas.

En 1992, el Obispo Joseph Gossman les dio la bienvenida a las Hermanas de St. Louis a la Diócesis de Raleigh. Respondí la invitación que mi comunidad me hizo para el ministerio en Ahoskie, NC. Hoy enseño clases para el GED y clases de ESL (Inglés como segunda lengua) en el Community College. También disfruto trabajando en el desarrollo de la fe en mi parroquia y ayudando a los trabajadores inmigrantes del área.

Fue un reto ajustarme a la vida en Ahoskie después de la experiencia en California. La soledad se alivió con el recibimiento cálido y el apoyo de la comunidad parroquial de St. Charles Borromeo. Gradualmente, Ahoskie se

ha convertido en mi hogar. En los últimos 50 años, durante los momentos difíciles, me ha sostenido mi pasaje favorito de las Sagradas Escrituras que es el siguiente: Lam.3: 22-23 "El amor de Yavé no se ha acabado, ni se han agotado sus misericordias; se renuevan cada mañana. Si, tu fidelidad es grande." Creo que Dios me ama incondicionalmente y me acompaña cada paso en el camino.

**La Hermana Margaret Holleran, M.S.S.C. - 40 años**

Las Hermanas Misioneras de San Columbano, conocidas como las Hermanas Columbanas, comenzaron en Irlanda, en 1921. Nuestras co-fundadoras tenían la visión de crear "a un grupo de religiosas y mujeres intrépidas dispuestas a saltar sobre un caballo y galopar cualquier distancia para atender el llamado de un enfermo". Nuestros ministerios estaban dirigidos a las mujeres, los niños, los marginados y los pobres.

Aunque me di cuenta que Dios me estaba llamando a la vida religiosa, yo era una persona muy independiente y no estaba interesada en la vida de convento, como las hermanas que me enseñaron en la escuela. Luego conocí a una Hermana Columbana que estaba haciendo su doctorado en Londres. Su sencillez y su devoción influyeron en mí profundamente.

He valorado todos los ministerios dentro de la Iglesia y fuera de ella. Ellos me han llevado por diferentes caminos a los misterios de la vida y al corazón de Dios en cada persona que he conocido y he servido. Tengo recuerdos queridos de los muchos años de Formación de Fe en las Filipinas. Los pobres me enseñaron mucho sobre la hospitalidad, la opresión y la esperanza. Hoy, al servir a nuestra comunidad hispana me viene nuevamente a la memoria los males de la pobreza y la explotación. Me inspira su deseo profundo de integrarse a una nueva cultura mientras tratan de mantener lo que es especial y sagrado en la suya. Me inspira su fe en Dios y el amor por nuestra Madre Santísima.

Jesús, El Hombre, su Mensaje y su Palabra son mi pasión e inspiran la búsqueda de Dios en mi vida. Las palabras no pueden expresar mis experiencias de Dios en la gente, especialmente en los hombres y en los eventos diarios de mi vida.

**La Hermana Joanna Walsh, F.J.C. - 40 años**

La comunidad de las Hermanas Fieles Compañeras de Jesús fue fundada en Francia, en 1820, por Marie Madeleine d'Houet y bajo la dirección de los Jesuitas. Ella buscaba mujeres que tuvieran el valor de las santas mujeres del evangelio, compañeras fieles de Jesús hasta el pie de la Cruz. Ella continúa en la página 19



**La Hermana Theresine Gildea, C.D.P. - 50 años**

Mi comunidad, la Congregación de la Divina Providencia fue fundada en Alemania. Nuestro

carisma es la confianza y la claridad en la Providencia de Dios y hacerla más visible en nuestro mundo.

La vida religiosa no estaba entre mis planes futuros pero sí el matrimonio. Sin embargo por accidente conocí a una Hermana de la comunidad que me contó sobre su trabajo misionero. Siempre me atrajo este tipo de servicio y después de mucha resistencia y negativas como "Creo que no, Señor," entré a la vida religiosa.

Cada asignación a la que he respondido tiene un lugar especial en mi corazón. El trabajo de 10 años en Puerto Rico colmó mi deseo de trabajar en las misiones. La fe de los pobres fue un don especial para mí. Mi trabajo durante 20 años en el ministerio pastoral en Pittsburg me permitió usar mis habilidades de consejera y sirvió de puente entre el trabajo misionero y pasar a la consejería de la familia,





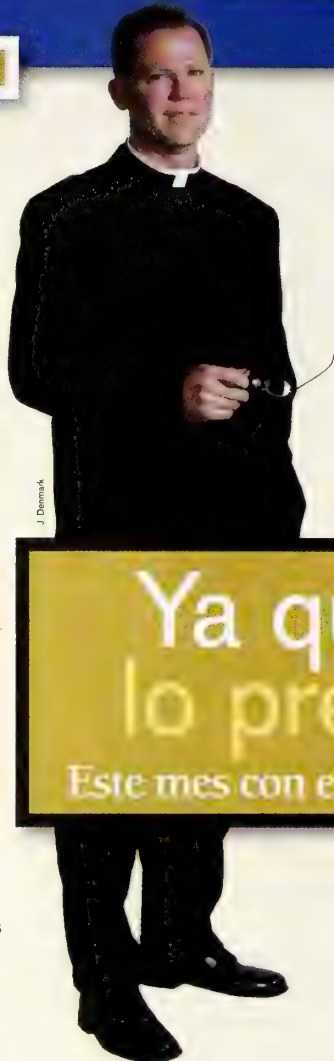
## ¿Cómo comenzó el tiempo de Cuaresma?

**E**l Papa Benedicto XIV, en su carta del 30 de mayo de 1741, les escribe a los obispos del mundo y les expresa su pesar por la disminución del espíritu religioso y la dispensa excesiva que se estaba presentando dentro de la Iglesia en relación con la disciplina de la Cuaresma.

El escribió lo siguiente: "La observación de la Cuaresma es la insignia de la guerra cristiana. Con ella demostramos que no somos enemigos de la Cruz de Cristo. Con ella prevenimos los castigos de la justicia divina. Con ella ganamos fuerza contra los príncipes de la oscuridad porque nos protege con la ayuda divina. Si la humanidad se vuelve indiferente en la observación de la Cuaresma iría en detrimento de la gloria de Dios, una vergüenza para la religión católica y un peligro para las almas cristianas. Tampoco puede negarse que dicha negligencia pueda convertirse en fuente de desdicha para el mundo, de calamidad pública y en enemigo privado." Aunque el sabio pontífice expresara un antiguo sentimiento de la Iglesia, la actual disciplina en relación con la Cuaresma está talvez aún mas mitigada que cuando escribiera esas palabras.

En inglés, la palabra "cuaresma" se deriva de una palabra teutona que significa primavera. La palabra en latín para esta época sagrada es "quadragesima" y significa "cuarenta días" (más específicamente, el día número cuarenta) y pareciera imitar el término griego, tessarakoste (cuadragésimo). Algunos Padres de la Iglesia (por ejemplo, San Jerónimo, San León Magno, San Cirilo Patriarca de Alejandría, San Isidoro de Sevilla y otros) decían que este periodo, marcado especialmente por el ayuno y la abstinencia, tenía origen apostólico; sin embargo existe poca evidencia histórica que apoye este argumento. Lo que si existe es una abundante evidencia que demuestra una amplia variedad de tradiciones con relación a la duración del periodo y a las prácticas sobrias que se esperan de los fieles católicos durante el tiempo que precede la celebración de la Pascua.

En el inicio de la Iglesia, en muchos lugares se le ordenaba un periodo de ayuno antes de la Pascua (a veces hasta de una semana) a los catecúmenos y a los penitentes que buscaban la reconciliación con la Iglesia, después de haber confesado ciertos pecados mortales. Durante el Siglo IV se estableció en Roma un periodo de preparación de tres semanas. También hay evidencia de que a mediados del Siglo IV se esperaba de todos los cristianos, un ayuno de penitencia de cuarenta días, imitando los cuarenta días que pasó el Señor en el desierto. De hecho, al principio el



Ya que usted lo pregunta ...  
Este mes con el Padre James F. Garneau

sola comida entera al día. Después, en muchas áreas y eventualmente a nivel universal, se permitieron hasta dos pequeñas comidas (colaciones, que hasta 1918 se medían de manera precisa). Además de una sola comida era común durante algunos tiempos y lugares, abstenerse de todas las carnes rojas al igual que de la leche, los huevos y el queso. Esto último

periodo de ayuno por razones de penitencia no era de cuarenta días ya que los domingos nunca se consideraron días de ayuno. Las seis semanas de la Cuaresma, que eran por lo tanto treinta y seis días, fueron reconocidos por el Papa San Gregorio y por otros como un "diezmo espiritual", es decir la décima parte de los 365 días del año. Después de un tiempo se adicionaron los días de la semana anterior (la séptima semana), comenzando con el miércoles. Esto se hizo para ofrecer realmente cuarenta días de ayuno. Las Iglesias orientales que mantienen su antigua costumbre de nunca ayunar durante el sábado y el domingo, comienzan a observar la Cuaresma dos semanas antes.

La naturaleza exacta del ayuno también ha variado ampliamente, pero nunca se ha visto tan disminuida como en la legislación y la práctica de la Iglesia universal contemporánea. Hasta 1996, con los cambios promulgados por el Papa Pablo VI, el ayuno mínimo significó hacer una

aún sigue siendo la ley de las Iglesias Orientales las que adicionalmente excluyen el pescado durante este tiempo. Sin embargo, siempre han existido las excepciones como por ejemplo, los labriegos, los enfermos y los estudiantes (no fueran a colgarse en sus estudios). Durante algunos tiempos y lugares, la Iglesia Occidental permitía la carne roja durante la única comida, pero no en días asignados (los viernes o el Miércoles de Ceniza). También se esperaban diferentes formas de ayuno y abstinencia durante todos los viernes del año, los días de penitencia (se asignaron 12), el adviento y las vigiliass en ciertas fiestas religiosas.

La legislación universal actual como se encuentra en el Código de Derecho Canónico (canon 1250-1253) sigue el espíritu de la constitución apostólica del Papa Pablo VI, el Paenitemini. Hoy, el énfasis se hace en la responsabilidad de cada miembro de la Iglesia de adoptar prácticas penitenciales en su vida, especialmente los viernes del año y durante la Cuaresma. Ahora sólo se consideran días de ayuno y abstinencia (de carnes) el Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo para todas las personas (a excepción de los niños y las personas mayores, etc). En la legislación actual, se recomien-



continuación de la página 17

comenzó trabajando con los huérfanos y abrió escuelas para las niñas; también ofreció formación para las jóvenes mujeres que trabajaban en las fábricas. Hoy en día nos encontramos en 15 países diferentes. Nuestra fundación más reciente está en México.

Las Hermanas Fieles Compañeras de Jesús fueron mis maestras desde la primaria hasta la secundaria en el estado de Rhode Island. Mi tía y mis dos hermanas mayores eran miembros de la comunidad. Su vida de oración me atrajo, además de mi deseo de ser maestra. Había cierto misterio en la vida religiosa que me atraía. Me encantaba ir a la Misa y quería acercarme más a Dios.

Vivir en Carolina del Norte me ha enseñado mucho sobre el ecumenismo y la colegiatura entre diferentes denominaciones. El ministerio en el Campo Universitario me permitió aplicar lo que había aprendido como asistente pastoral de jóvenes adultos que estaban tomando las grandes decisiones sobre sus futuros. La dirección espiritual es ahora el enfoque principal en mi ministerio. Me permite ofrecer hospitalidad a la otra persona, usar mis dones de escuchar con compasión y ayudar a la otra persona a ver sus propias experiencias de vida desde otra perspectiva. Escuchar las historias de las personas, caminar con ellos mientras buscan discernir la guía de Dios en la complejidad de sus vidas: esto es confianza sagrada. El tiempo que paso así con otra persona, profundiza y reta mi propia fe.

dan las obras de caridad y oración como una forma de marcar los días de penitencia y las temporadas.

Las conferencias nacionales de los obispos con la autorización de la Santa Sede, tienen la responsabilidad de legislar las prácticas locales (nacionales) relacionadas con la observación de la Cuaresma y los otros días de ayuno y penitencia.

— El Padre James F. Garneau, Ph.D. es el Pastor de la Parroquia de St. Mary y de las Misiones en Mount Olive, NC.

## La Cuaresma

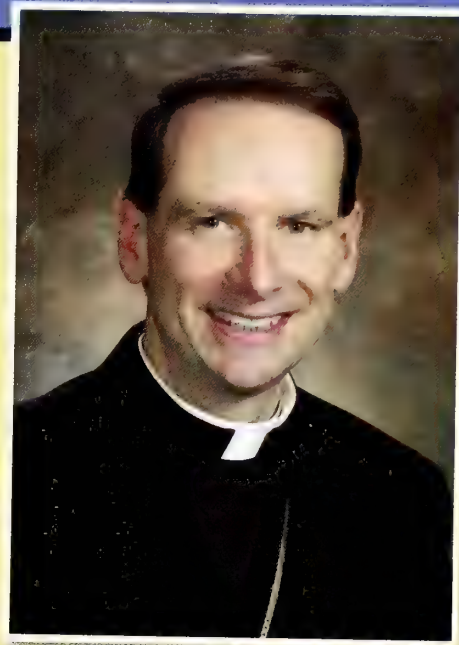
### Una invitación a la Renovación

**¡A** légrense, por fin los coros de los ángeles, alégrense las jerarquías del cielo y, por la victoria de rey tan poderoso, que las trompetas anuncien la salvación!... ¿De qué nos habría servido la vida si Cristo no hubiera venido como nuestro Redentor?

Estas palabras las cantamos en cada Vigilia Pascual durante la celebración de la gran fiesta de la Resurrección. Como católicos sabemos que la Vigilia Pascual es la celebración litúrgica más grandiosa de todas las celebraciones pues celebra el suceso más importante de la historia del mundo: la resurrección de Cristo de la muerte, la victoria definitiva sobre el pecado y el mal.

Lo sabemos y lo creemos pero como pecadores nos resistimos a mantener esa verdad como lo más importante en nuestros corazones y en las acciones de todos los días de nuestra vida. La Iglesia nos conoce bien. Ella se preocupa porque no descuidemos ni olvidemos esta verdad fundamental. Por lo tanto, la Iglesia nos llama anualmente a una jornada espiritual de reflexión, conversión y renovación, una jornada a la que llamamos la Cuaresma.

En este tiempo sagrado, la Iglesia nos invita a renovar las disciplinas de la *oración, el ayuno y la caridad en nuestras vidas*, para que podamos experimentar una transformación radical y una conversión de mente, cuerpo, alma y espíritu. Mientras usted se dedica a estas disciplinas, trate cada día de permitirse más tiempo a la soledad y a la oración. Piense en asistir a la Misa durante la semana, además de la del domingo de obligación. Arrepíentase de los pecados y celebre el precioso don de la gracia de Dios en el Sacramento de la Penitencia. Haga ayuno de las cosas materiales que no necesita y extienda su amor a los más necesitados y a menudo olvidados. Rece el



Rosario a diario, especialmente por la intención de la paz en todo el mundo y dentro de nuestros corazones. Considere hacer las Estaciones de la Cruz cada viernes. Las disciplinas de la Cuaresma y las prácticas espirituales de la Iglesia nos ayudan a renovar nuestro conocimiento de porque los ángeles y toda la creación se regocijan alrededor del trono de Dios; ellas también nos recuerdan lo que olvidamos fácilmente: que la vida no tendría ningún significado para nosotros, si Cristo no hubiera venido como nuestro Redentor.

¡Es mi esperanza y oración que este tiempo sagrado los acerque más que nunca y sean concientes de cuán precioso son ustedes para Dios y del gran amor que Él nos ha demostrado al darnos Su Hijo único, Jesucristo, que sufrió, murió y resucitó de la muerte *por nosotros!*

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh



Visít [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org) | [www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



romance



Thanks for the memories

►► When it comes to romance, memories can be very powerful. Surprise your spouse by putting a little memory book together. Gather special photographs, movie tickets, love letters, poems, seashells, pinecones, pressed flowers etc.



money

Think retirement

►► You know what they say about that light at the end of the tunnel – it could be the headlamp of an oncoming train! If you don't want to be crushed by unexpected poverty at retirement, think about it now – contribute to a 401(k) and talk to an investment counselor.

**S**arah and Rick have been married for 17 years. Sarah's brother lost his job recently and wants financial help. Sarah and Rick disagree about giving money to her brother.

he says

**I don't want to support her deadbeat relatives**

**Rick says:** Sarah's brother, Tom, lost his job a few months ago. Apparently, his savings have run out and he's facing foreclosure on his house. Sarah wants us to pick up his mortgage payments for a couple of months or so, until he gets back on his feet. But I don't think Tom has been trying very hard to get a job – he seems to be waiting for the "perfect opportunity." I think he needs to find anything that will pay the bills, and not expect us to support him.

she says

**My brother lost his job – we have to help**

**Sarah says:** Tom is the baby of our family, and it was always my job to take care of him. Rick doesn't realize how hard it's been for him – Tom is very gifted and he is often unappreciated by his employers. He's always been a generous uncle to our kids and now I'd like to repay some of that generosity. It will bite into our savings, but not be a catastrophe, if we pay his mortgage for two or three months.

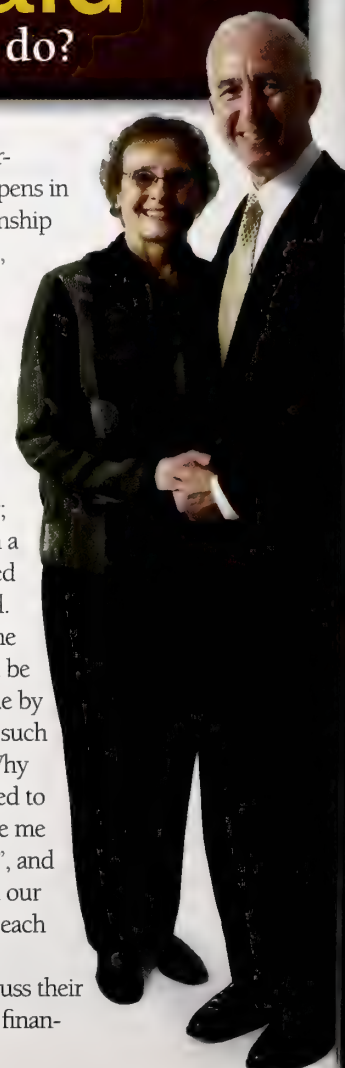


**He said  
She said  
what do they do?**

experts say

As generally happens in a relationship between two normal people, this disagreement has little to do with the topic at hand – money – and much more to do with underlying issues. This situation is complicated, delicate and sensitive because it involves an extended family member; the biological bond between a brother and sister was created long before the marital bond. To get closer to the root of the issue, Rick and Sarah would be wise to discover the real issue by asking each other questions such as, "Why should we?" or "Why shouldn't we?" They also need to reflect on "How does it make me feel when I am asked to ...?", and "How does this issue impact our core values as a couple, and each of us individually?"

If Rick and Sarah can discuss their feelings about assisting Tom finan-





cially, it might put them closer to a solution both could accept. For example, one of Rick's underlying issues appears to be Tom's lack of initiative in finding work to pay the mortgage. Possibly even deeper is Rick's apparent dislike for the way Tom has approached what Rick perceives as Tom's responsibility to be a male household provider – a provider who will do whatever it takes to succeed. Rick appears to take a dim view of Tom waiting for the “perfect opportunity.” If Tom were working full time and still could not make ends meet, it's possible that Rick would quickly come to Tom's rescue as “one provider to another.”

On the other hand, Sarah's approach to Tom is one of caregiver. She has always felt responsibility to look after Tom and rationalizes his problems as being caused by others and not by Tom himself. Rick and Sarah are facing a situation where fact and logic are wrapped in feelings and emotions. The latter must be dealt with first before fact and logic are allowed to shed light on a workable solution for them as a married couple.

Our initial recommendation is for Rick and Sarah to list the pros and cons of how this situation is affecting their relationship. Once they can identify how it is affecting their relationship, they can narrow in on the “why.” If they can't do this without heat and anger, they should write a letter to each other expressing their feelings – making sure they use “I” language and don't resort to finger-pointing. If they cannot work through this on their own – realizing that the most important thing in their lives is their marriage – they should seek professional help.

– Tom and JoAnn Fogle

## Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend

March 16-18 at the Clamdigger Inn in Atlantic Beach, NC (7:30 p.m. Friday until around 5 p.m. Sunday)

**Requires:** a desire to make a good marriage great ... a weekend away ... a baby-sitter

**Cost:** Minimal (a \$50 deposit, then an anonymous donation at the close of the weekend)

**Value:** PRICELESS!!! You'll wish you went years ago!

**It IS:** a weekend away from the rat race, allows you PRIVATE time to focus on your relationship.

**It is NOT:** a retreat, marriage clinic or problem solving weekend.

For more information, visit our Web site at [wwme-nc.info](http://wwme-nc.info) or call Joe and Linda Costine at 919.553.8693

## Parenting our parents how to relate to a different generation



**The walls that held that heap of living now hold a heap of fond memories.**

**T**he brick ranch house across the street has a “For Sale” sign in the yard. My mom, on her trips to Michigan, has always thought the house was charming. I picture evenings together sharing dinner and a walk around the block. We'd go for casual lunches and plant flowers. If she faced an unexpected illness, I would be right here. Her grandchildren would pop in and out. It would be similar to my childhood, moved one generation up! The only fly in the ointment is that it is **my** fantasy! My mom's friendship support system is firmly entrenched in another state. In fact, her De La Salle Youth Group, formed after World War II, is still meeting four times a year even though the “youth” are in their 70s and 80s! How do middle-aged adults understand their aging parents?

**“It takes a heap of living in a house to make it home.”**

►► These words were written by Edgar A. Guest, one of the poets laureate of Michigan, and describe the feelings of many older individuals. The images we see in the media often depict individuals moving to far-off retirement communities. Actually, it is more common to stay in the vicinity that one has called home; many want to live in the actual house in which they raised their families. The walls that held that heap of living now hold a heap of fond memories.

Adult children worry about physical aspects of the house: narrow stairways or mold growing on cellar walls.

Older parents may feel content in familiar surroundings. Friendships, church and community ties provide social supports that are highly valued.

### Increasing dependency needs.

►► When asked about the positive aspects of growing older, many people say that it is great to have flexibility in terms of time and to be more independent. Becoming physically dependent on others for transportation is a major concern; giving up a driver's license is a major blow. Also, parents are used to financial support flowing from them to their children, and it can be difficult if fixed incomes mean that the situation reverses. When affection and sentiment characterize the relationship, rather than a sense of filial obligation, families can communicate effectively to determine how to reorganize to meet everyone's needs. Often, families negotiate a series of decisions over time, taking into account changes in health and economic issues while continuing to provide emotional support.

### Jesus calls us to care for our parents with gratitude.

In old age we give them material and moral support as we are able. (CCC #2218) As Scripture tells us, “. . . whoever glorifies his mother is like one who lays up treasure.” (Sir 3:4)

– Dr. Cathleen McGreal





► We usually do not have to look far for a penance. **Our daily duty, done well, offers plenty of penance.** If you have not noticed, your hair shirt might be beside you at home or work. Hair shirts don't always itch.

**L**ast year I was with my family, getting ready to watch *Narnia*, when a preview of the now infamous movie *The Da Vinci Code* flashed across the screen. In a few brief screens, it managed to portray Catholicism in the worst way. Without getting into its many problems, one scene focused on a monk doing some extreme forms of penance. He tightly wrapped something that looked like a metal net around part of his body to deliberately cause him great pain. You could hear audience members saying, "That's nuts!" Yep. It sure was. Repentance is a good thing. Self-mutilation is not.

It is true that there are examples throughout church history of people performing extreme forms of penance. In the late Middle Ages it became popular for penitents to beat themselves with whips. They were called flagellants and had a great following during the 13th and 14th centuries. The plague known as the Black Death was spreading throughout Europe, and many were attracted to do extreme things in order to invoke God's mercy and stop the plague. Even before this, whipping oneself – even to the point of drawing blood – was practiced by some saints. St. Dominic Loricatus is reported to have scourged himself nearly continuously over a six-day period, while repeatedly praying the 150 psalms. Another popular form of penance was to wear a hair shirt, also known as a *cilice*. The shirt was made of rough material like sackcloth or goat's hair, and was worn underneath one's clothing so no one would see it. "And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you." (Mt 6:18) The shirt was uncomfortable, but did not harm the body. St. Thomas More and many other saints were known to adopt this practice. What are we to make of all this?

First, we remember Jesus' words to us as he began his public ministry: "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand." (Mt 4:17) Repentance means we turn away from sin and turn to God. It did not imply slashing, cutting, whipping or beating ourselves to cause physical harm. The lack of physical penance of Jesus' disciples – at least at the beginning of

his ministry – was a concern for some of the Jewish religious leaders. Some Pharisees asked, "Why do your disciples not fast?" Jesus responded by

asking how can one fast when one is with the bridegroom at a wedding? Also, you don't put new wine into old wineskins. "Otherwise the skins will burst and both wine and skins will be ruined." (Mt 9:17) But he also said, "when the bridegroom is taken away, then they will fast." (Mt 9:15) There are times when physical penance, also known as mortification, is appropriate.

How great is our desire to follow Jesus Christ? Jesus did penance for 40 days in the desert as a preparation for his ministry. Penance was an

## Penance

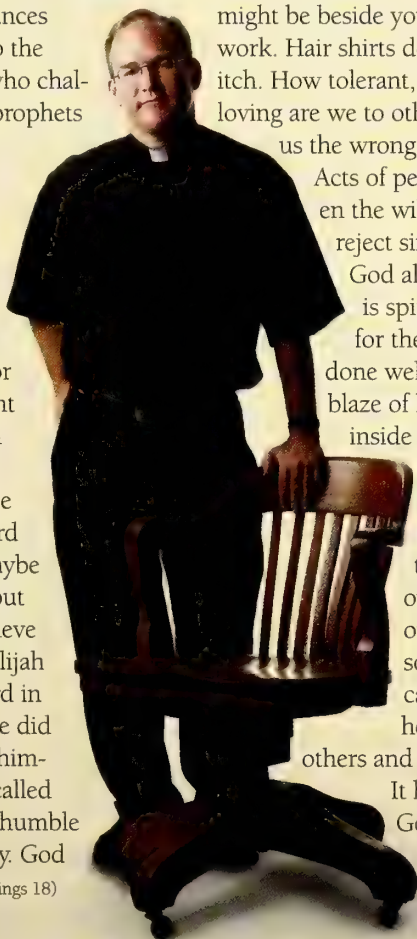
### What does it really mean?



appropriate human expression of his complete reliance and union with his heavenly Father. Penance is directly associated with our desire to imitate Jesus and to serve God alone. We do penance because we love Jesus and hate sin. God graces penance so that it helps weaken our attachment to sin and deepens our conviction and resolve to follow him.

I know of a person who was struggling with an addiction he could not seem to break. He decided to go to confession and to do penance by going to Mass on the first Saturday of the month for five consecutive months. He also prayed the rosary after Mass, asking that God would help heal the addiction. Within a short time, he was freed! You could see the new joy and freedom within him. True penance does not put sadness in our hearts, but joy.

I am sure you will be glad to know the church condemned the severe scourging of the flagellants. Such severe penances harkened back to the prophet Elijah, who challenged the false prophets of Baal on top of Mt Carmel. The false prophets cut and slashed themselves and danced in a frenzied way in order to win favor so their god might hear them. Elijah taunted them by saying that maybe their god was hard of hearing, or maybe he had stepped out for a while to relieve himself! When Elijah called on the Lord in faith and trust, he did not cut or harm himself, but simply called on the Lord in a humble and obedient way. God responded. (cf 1 Kings 18)



What about the hair shirt or cilice? Elijah did wear a "hairy garment." (2 Kings 1:8) Certainly a hair shirt does no harm to a person physically. It is just uncomfortable. Hair shirts are a part of our tradition, going all the way back to our Jewish roots. King David, when confronted with the sin of adultery and murder, fasted, prayed and prostrated himself on the ground in sackcloth for seven days. His son, born from his adulterous union, was dying just as the prophet Nathan had foretold. (2 Sam 12:14) David believed his penance might gain pardon and mercy for his child. David wrote in Psalm 51, "A humbled contrite heart, the Lord does not spurn."

Following the practice of Jesus and many saints, we know penance is good and necessary for us. We usually do not have to look far for a penance. Our daily duty, done well, offers plenty of penance for the soul. As one popular priest has noted, your hair shirt might be beside you at home or work. Hair shirts don't always itch. How tolerant, patient and loving are we to others who rub us the wrong way?

Acts of penance strengthen the will's resolve to reject sin and live for God alone. Penance is spiritual medicine for the soul. When done well, it causes a blaze of love to burn inside a person.

Penance can break down the hard shell that surrounds our hearts and open them up so real love can flow out. It helps us live for others and not ourselves. It helps us live for God.

— Father Bill Ashbaugh

## St. Thomas More Academy edges the Men in Black

▶▶ An estimated 600 people turned out January 5 to watch a basketball game

between a group of seminarians from the Diocese of Raleigh and players from Saint Thomas More Academy, an independent Catholic school in Raleigh. While the focus was on the players in what amounted to a spirited four-quarter game, attention was also paid to one of the officials, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, bishop of Raleigh.

In addition to being a fun event for the players as well as the fans, the game drew attention to the formation program of the diocese and one of Bishop Burbidge's major priorities, to increase vocations to the priesthood and to consecrated religious life.

Six of the diocese's 18 men in formation participated in the contest: Deacon Anthony DeCandia, Michael Spurr, Jeff Bobby, John Gournas, Dan Maloney and Michael Burbeck. They were joined by Father Ned Schlesinger, newly appointed diocesan director of vocations, and Father Philip Tighe, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Rocky Mount. In a tightly played game, the "Men in Black" came up short, falling to their younger competitors 30-29.

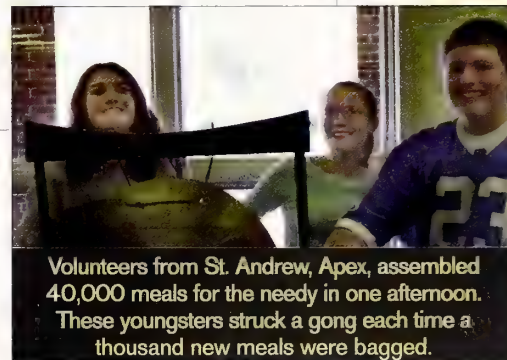


Bishop Michael Burbidge with newly appointed Diocesan Director of Vocations Fr. Ned Schlesinger at the Men in Black basketball game. Bishop Burbidge officiated; Fr. Ned played for the "Men in Black."

## St. Andrew youth bag hunger

On one Saturday in December, St. Andrew's Youth Ministry and the Rotary Club of Cary bagged 40,000 meals for the hungry. This was part

of Operation Sharehouse, which is coordinated by Stop Hunger Now — an international relief organization that coordinates the distribution of food and other life-saving aid around the globe. Operation Sharehouse is a volunteer-based effort that provides high-protein, dehydrated meals for use in emergencies, as well as in school feeding programs and orphanages. The product is a fortified rice-soy mixture, which also includes dehydrated vegetables, chicken fat, salt and 21 essential vitamins. It has a shelflife of three to five years, so it can be strategically stockpiled for emergency use. The bags will be distributed in more than 50 countries.



Volunteers from St. Andrew, Apex, assembled 40,000 meals for the needy in one afternoon. These youngsters struck a gong each time a thousand new meals were bagged.



**Gospel Non-violence: Our Great Failure, Our Only Hope**, a retreat sponsored by Good News Ministries, Raleigh Diocese Division of Evangelization and Catechesis and Catholic Charities Office of Peace and Justice. Feb. 23 – 25 at the CFL Family Retreat Center, 2006 Wicker Street, North Topsail Beach, NC 28460. Cost: \$110 includes meals Saturday and Sunday and lodging. For more information, contact Brent Heiser, 919.544.0684 or goodnews@earthlink.net.

**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour**, March 2, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral, is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. While the VHH's are open to everyone, it will certainly be a unique opportunity for men and women discerning a church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment.

**Help in preparing income tax returns.** If your income in 2006 was \$35,000 or less, you can take advantage of a free tax preparation service. Volunteers at St. Andrew the Apostle in Apex and St. Raphael in Raleigh stand ready to assist you in preparing your federal and state income tax returns. There is no charge.

Returns will be prepared at St. Andrew and St. Raphael on selected Saturday mornings in February, March and April by appointment only. You do not have to be a parishioner to receive this service. Bilingual services will be available. For an appointment, call Carol Blackford at 919.362.0414 for St. Andrew (Apex/Cary area) and Diana Kreider at 919.848.0468 for St. Raphael (Raleigh).

**Ngambi Young Adult Retreat** March 2, 8 p.m. – March 4, noon at the Trinity Center, Salter Path. Sponsored by African Ancestry Ministry. This is an annual retreat for young adults ages 19-35 to come together and worship and pray. Cost: \$100, includes housing and meals. For more information, contact Martha Carter-Bailey at 919.821.9762 or martha.bailey@raldioc.org.

**Winter Fest Annual Young Adult Conference**, March 3, St. Michael the Archangel, Cary. Join 20- and 30-some-things from around the diocese to hear a roundup of stimulating speakers. Contact Kathleen Kozak, 919.821.9772.

**Search for Christian Maturity**, March 9-11 at Short Journey Center in Smithfield. Search is a weekend retreat for 11th - 12th grade youth. Activities encourage self-discovery and reflection on relationships with others and with God. This is a peer-led retreat as the Search "team" is made up of other teens. These past Searchers model leadership, faith sharing, and ministry with their peers. Adults in youth ministry also attend and participate in Search. Searches usually fill up quickly, so sign-up for the earliest date possible to ensure yourself a space. Cost: \$90 youth/adults. Dates: March 9-11, 2007; April 13-15, 2007. Contact Mike Hagarty at 919.821.9770 or Hagarty@raldioc.org.

**"Just Faith, Living the Christian Life."** A one-day seminar hosted by St. Michael the Archangel Church in Cary on Saturday, March 17, 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. This seminar is for everyone who is searching for a meaningful way to live one's Catholic faith in today's complex world. We will discuss our responsibility to the poor and how to help our brothers and sisters in need. For more information, contact Mary Dickerson, 919.462.7063 or Mary@ranchliving.com.

**Priesthood Discernment Group**, March 17, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., at the Doggett Center, Raleigh. This group provides a comfortable and safe place to discuss your thoughts and feelings about a possible call to the priesthood. The group discusses issues central to the call within the context of prayer and mutual support. If you think this group may be for you, please call Fr. Alex at 919.833.9668 or e-mail him at jagonza3@ncsu.edu.

Catholic Evangelization Event, Saturday, March 17, 2007. Volunteers needed to walk in the **Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade** with the Catholic Evangelization group One Bread Lay Apostolate. Distribute St. Patrick prayer cards. Everyone (Irish

or not) is welcome to participate in this fun evangelization event in downtown Raleigh. Youth groups can compete for the 2nd annual Catholic Youth Evangelization Award by making signs to carry, wearing Catholic Evangelist T-shirts, singing Catholic hymns, playing instruments, or performing a Catholic dance or cheer. For information contact Karen Matthews at 919.708.6907 or Pat Nolan at 919.844.8105.

**John 6:35 Eucharistic Youth Retreat**, March 23-25 at Franklin Academy, 604 S. Franklin St., Wake Forest. This retreat is based on the Gospel of St. John, Chapter 6, "I Am the Bread of Life." The Eucharistic-centered retreat includes the Mass, the sacrament of reconciliation, adoration, talks, music, catechesis, prayer, meditation and fellowship. All teaching and instruction are taken from Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, encyclicals and documents approved by the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. The liturgical practices at the retreat follow the guidelines as set out in the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*. Contact Brad Watkins, 919.834.1625, ext. 408.

**Family Honor** ([www.familyhonor.org](http://www.familyhonor.org)) will be presenting **"Changes and Challenges"**, a family program for sixth graders and their parents exploring God's special gift of human fertility, sexuality, the virtue of chastity and the beauty and wonder of growing up. This program is grounded in Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body and is presented in an age-appropriate way. There are two parts to the program: Session 1 is for parents only and Session 2 is for parents with their sixth grade son or daughter. For questions about Family Honor or the program please call Lisa Roess at 919.362.0771. "Changes and Challenges" will be presented at the following parishes: St. Luke the Evangelist in Raleigh on March 2 - 3 (Audrey Valone 919.821.5777); St. Mary Magdalene in Apex on March 23, 30 (Celeste Usischon 919.657.4800 x 306); and St. Patrick in Fayetteville on April 20, 27 (Beth O'Leary 910.323.2410). Please contact these parish representatives directly for registration information.



# FIRST FRIDAY

## VOCATIONS HOLY HOUR

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007  
Sacred Heart Cathedral

Praying for vocations  
to the priesthood and  
religious life in the  
Diocese of Raleigh.

Music & Confessions – 7:30 p.m.  
Holy Hour – 8:00 p.m.  
Music and reception to follow.





At the BAA Kickoff Dinner for the Cape Fear Deanery, Bishop Burbidge talks with Christina Yu, wife of Seung Yu (back to camera), campus minister at UNCW. **Below:** Bishop Burbidge talks with children at St. Mark School, Wilmington. During his trip to kick off the Bishop's Annual Appeal in various deaneries, Burbidge visited both St. Mark and St. Mary schools in the Cape Fear Deanery.

## Bishop's road trip kicks Off BAA

Each year one of the most important aspects of the Bishop's Annual Appeal is the BAA road trip, which takes the Bishop and members of his staff out to the eight deaneries of the diocese. During these deanery visits Bishop Burbidge visits with a BAA supported ministry to learn firsthand the ways they have benefited from this funding. This year he has visited many of the diocese's schools and their children along the way. The Bishop has committed to visiting all 33 schools and early childhood centers in his first year. By the end of Catholic Schools Week on January 30, the bishop will have visited 18 of the facilities.

Following a presentation by the Diocesan Development staff, pastors and volunteer leaders from the deanery parishes gather for a meal and an address by Bishop Burbidge on the importance of supporting the BAA, both spiritually and financially.



**Catholic Scouting Camporee.** The Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Diocese of Raleigh will be sponsoring a weekend of camping, fellowship, fun, workshops and worship for all registered Boy and Girl Scouts and leaders. The approximately \$10 cost will include all fees, awards and Saturday lunch. Date: March 23 -25. Location: Camp Tuscarora (near Bentonville, NC). For more information, contact Frank Jackson, 919.303.2399 or frank.jackson@verizonbusiness.com.

**Llamados a Servir** (Called to Serve), Course 4, March 24-25 at the Catholic Center, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh. For more information, contact Verónica Alvarado 919.821.9738 or Bea Callery 919.821.9715. All participants must register in advance.

**Llamados a Servir**, Curso 4, 24-25 de marzo en el Centro Católico, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh. Para más información contactar a Verónica Alvarado 919.821.9738 o a Bea Callery 919.821.9715. Los participantes deberán registrarse con anticipación.

## During the course of the last few months, Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge has made the following appointments:

- ▶▶ Reverend George V. Coyne, S.J., of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus, on sabbatical from the Vatican Observatory, has been assigned to parish ministry at Saint Raphael the Archangel Parish, Raleigh, effective **Sept. 1, 2006.**
- ▶▶ Reverend Bertrand Ebben, O.P., of the Order of Preachers, Province of St. Martin de Porres, has been assigned to assist in ministry and is in residence at St. Martin de Porres Friary in Raleigh effective **Sept. 1, 2006.**
- ▶▶ Reverend Michael Proterra, S.J., of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus, has been appointed parochial vicar at Saint Raphael the Archangel Parish, Raleigh, effective **Sept. 1, 2006.**
- ▶▶ Reverend Thomas Gumprecht, S.A., of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, has been appointed parochial vicar at Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish, Apex, effective **Nov. 1, 2006.**
- ▶▶ Reverend Victor Celio, O.P., of the Order of Preachers, Province of St. Martin de Porres, has been assigned to assist in ministry and is in residence at St. Martin de Porres Friary in Raleigh effective **Nov. 13, 2006.**
- ▶▶ Reverend Monsignor Gerald L. Lewis, retired vicar general, has been appointed diocesan archivist effective **Nov. 20, 2006.**
- ▶▶ Reverend Salvatore A. Busichio of the Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey, was welcomed to the Diocese of Raleigh and began to assist in ministry, effective **Dec. 7, 2006.**
- ▶▶ Reverend Paul W. Brant, S.J., of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus, has been appointed parochial vicar at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Newton Grove, effective **Jan. 15, 2007.**
- ▶▶ Reverend Luis Alberto Domico Domico, of the Diocese of Apartadó, Colombia, has been assigned to assist in ministry at Saint Mary Parish, Mt. Olive, and its missions effective **Jan. 15, 2007.**
- ▶▶ Reverend William G. Quigley, CICM, of the Missionhurst-CICM Community, has been appointed Campus Minister and parochial vicar at Newman Catholic Student Center Parish, Chapel Hill, effective **Jan. 15, 2007.**
- ▶▶ Reverend William Restrepo Vázquez, of the Archdiocese of Medellín, Colombia, has been assigned to assist in ministry at Immaculate Conception Parish, Clinton, and its missions effective **Jan. 18, 2007.**
- ▶▶ Reverend Bernard E. Shlesinger, V.F., Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Newton Grove, and Dean of the Newton Grove Deanery, has been appointed director of vocations effective **March 5, 2007.**
- ▶▶ Very Reverend Patrick Keane, Vicar for Hispanics, has been appointed Administrator pro tem of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Newton Grove, in addition to his current assignment as Vicar for Hispanics. The effective date of this appointment will be **March 5, 2007 to July 10, 2007.**
- ▶▶ Reverend Omoviekovwa Nakireru, of the Diocese of Warri, Nigeria, has a teaching position at Shaw University in Raleigh. Father Nakireru permanently resides in Fayetteville and has been offered temporary residence at Sacred Heart Cathedral when necessary.





Looking for a  
more spiritual  
Lent?  
Mary Pat Barth  
can help

# Soul companion

**I**'m inspired," Mary Pat Barth says, "by people who want to deepen their relationship with God. In this crazy world, I think that's just about the most challenging task a person can face." And for more than 20 years, Barth, a spiritual director, has been helping them to face it.

Barth, originally from Buffalo, NY, came to spiritual direction and eventually to North Carolina along a twisting path: two Masters Degrees, studies at Loyola University in Chicago, campus ministry at Holy Cross College in Worcester, Mass. and Georgetown were followed by campus ministry assignments at Duke and UNCW. Today, in addition to her freelance work as a spiritual director, she is Director of Youth Ministry at St. Mark Church in Wilmington.

At Holy Cross and Georgetown, both Jesuit campuses, Barth was part of a team that offered 5-day silent Ignatian retreats to students, faculty, staff and alumni. Many of the participants would seek spiritual



direction as a follow-up to the retreats. "I directed some physicians from Georgetown's medical center, some CEOs, as well as students discerning their futures," she recalls. "We would have people stand up and say, 'I'm 50 years old and I've made all this money,

but I don't have an intact relationship with God. I think it was good for students to hear this, to learn early what was important."

Among Barth's current clients are men and women of different faiths. "I have some Baptist and Presbyterian pastors who are themselves learning to be spiritual directors. I have some Episcopal directees, a few women Religious from the Raleigh area. Some I have seen for the last six years, some come for a short time to discern a decision. I've had some people come during the "off season" for a tailor made retreat, then stay at the beach and meet with me once a day, just for some prayer and reflection.

"I feel like I'm on holy ground when I'm with someone in spiritual direction. People's stories are incredible, and they're all just trying to connect the dots in their lives to God."

When people first come to Barth, she says, many confess they don't know what spiritual direction involves. "But they'll say, 'I need to get my life together with God. I need to pray more and I don't know how. Something is missing in my life.'"

Barth will set up an appointment with a potential client "to see if we're a good fit." After that, sessions are tailor made. "I always have a candle lit between us," Barth says, "because I know clearly that God is with us and I always pray for that person beforehand."

"At the end of every session, I always ask, 'What do you need most from the Lord this next month?' I'm looking for a grace or a blessing and it always flows from the session and helps the person pull things together. Then I turn the question around and ask, 'What do you think the Lord needs from you?' That sometimes takes people by surprise, but our relationship with the Lord is mutual, after all."

Barth is careful not to use her Youth Ministry time at St. Mark for spiritual direction: "Sometimes I will see a person at St. Mark on my lunch hour. But often, I'll see someone after work at their space or mine, where it's comfortable and there are no interruptions."

She's also careful to make a distinction between spiritual direction and therapy. "What I do is absolutely not therapy," she says. If it becomes clear that

**A spiritual director is just a companion on life's journey, listening, asking reflective questions and sometimes challenging based on what's been said.**



► "We would have people stand up and say, 'I'm 50 years old and I've made all this money, but I don't have an intact relationship with God. I think it was good for students to hear this, to learn early what was important.'"

## Mary Pat Barth's suggestions for the best Lent ever

### 1 Participate in your parish's Lenten activities.

They are there for us.

**2 Create a weekly Mantra** that fits your prayer and pray it often during the day. It could be a line from Scripture that you love or that you need.

**3 Create a prayer corner** in your home that draws you into the Lord and set a practical time to pray more during Lent. Make a realistic goal — start small and be faithful, and then you may want to increase out of desire! Place your sacred symbols there. Your prayer corner could be in your garden or on your porch / deck / office.

**4 If you commute a lot, why not use spiritual music,** or try some silence and pray your mantra, or listen to a spiritual book.

**5 Choose a Gospel and pray it very slowly.** It may take you all of Lent to get through. The purpose is NOT to read it but to PRAY it in order to get to know Jesus more deeply. Put yourself into each scene as if you were right there with Jesus. Then turn yourself around and become Jesus in each scene and get to know how Jesus felt. You will get to know Him more and be able to enter into Holy Week much more deeply.

**6 Get to the Eucharist more during Lent.**

**7 Pray a different Way of the Cross this Lent,** for example, Mary's Way of the Cross, and attend your parish's Friday Lenten Stations. Google different "Ways of the Cross" on your computer.



**8 Experience Adoration during Lent** and LISTEN to the Lord instead of talking to Him so much. You may really hear something from Him!

**9 Pray over the daily readings during Lent.** If you don't have access to them, you can find them online at: [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org).

**10 These web sites are my favorites and you can find many spiritual resources;** one is the Spiritual Exercises online: [www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry](http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry). The other is Sacred Space, from the Jesuits in Ireland: [www.sacredspace.ie/](http://www.sacredspace.ie/). You can use these sites all the time, but begin to familiarize yourself with them spiritually during Lent.

**11 Lent is also about reaching out to others.** Contact your local Catholic Charities and ask what they need. Get your family involved with contributing something there. Help out at a soup kitchen / Catholic Worker House / service project in your parish or community.

**12 Lent is the time for reconciliation.** Every Parish has a Lenten Reconciliation Service — participate and bring your family. Or invite a friend. Invite a person back to the Church who has been away.

**13 Check out the retreat offerings at Avila** [in Durham], and treat yourself to something! Walk the Labyrinth at Avilla as a Lenten Prayer experience.

**14 Check out the spiritual offerings at "A Place For Women To Gather"** in Raleigh or the Christian Family Retreat Center at Topsail.

**15 Start a book club with friends** and read something spiritual during Lent.

**16 Make this Lent more meaningful and spiritual than the last one.** Only you know how to do that each day. Share your spiritual goals with a friend in a mutual way so you can be accountable to one another.

**17 Lent is the most sacred Liturgical time of our year,** a time when each of us is invited to draw near to the Son of God who loved us so much He gave His very life for us. He yearns to have a relationship with each and every one of us. Lent is the most precious time to rekindle that love relationship with Christ. The Lord is waiting for you and me to respond. How will you draw closer to Him this Lent?

a client has concerns which are better dealt with by a mental health professional, she will advise him or her to consult one.

"A spiritual director is just a companion on life's journey," she says, "listening, asking reflective questions and sometimes challenging based on what's been said. We assist with resistance and roadblocks in order to help people to breakthroughs in their relationship with God, and to help them live that better relationship. God communicates through ordinary human experience, and a spiritual director can help someone see God's invitations and urgings in that experience. If we miss those things, we're missing God. We're missing the boat!"

What does Lent mean to a spiritual director? "I think it's a golden opportunity to grow closer to God," Barth says. "And it's a chance to improve on the previous Lent." She has prepared a list of suggestions for doing just that. (See box.) "When you've thought about your spiritual goals for Lent, share them with a friend. Accountability is the best way to maintain your goals. That's what spiritual direction is all about. It's sharing your progress with someone and once a month being accountable to that person. 'How are you doing since we last met? Where is God in your life? What is God saying to you?'"

"The bottom line is that if you are intentional in your spiritual life, it's difficult to do it alone."

► Contact Mary Pat Barth in Wilmington at 910.231.9777 or [tym@stmarkcatholicchurch.com](mailto:tym@stmarkcatholicchurch.com).



Visit [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org) | [www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



# What does the church teach SPECIAL REPORT about embryonic stem cells?

## numbers

60%

of Americans agree with using stem cells derived from human embryos for medical research.

32%

of Americans are not clear what the distinction is between embryonic and adult stem cells.

42%

of Americans would allow the current restrictions on government funding of stem cell research.



**M**arie T. Hilliard, R.N., Ph.D., J.C.L. is the director of bioethics and public policy at the National Catholic Bioethics Center. She served 10 years as executive director of the Connecticut Catholic Conference, the public policy advocacy office of the Roman Catholic Bishops of Connecticut.

### What are stem cells and what is stem cell research?

Stem cells have the ability to divide indefinitely in culture, as in a petri dish or test tube, and to become specialized cells. Stem cells can be derived from embryos, most commonly from eggs that have been fertilized in vitro (literally "in glass"); or, from adult cells, usually taken from bone marrow, fat, umbilical cord blood, or the placenta. The primary role of adult stem cells is to maintain and repair the tissue in which they are found. The main goal of research on any type of stem cells is to find a cure for disease.

### What do we know about stem cell research successes?

So far, according to peer-reviewed research, there have been no therapeutic benefits from embryonic stem cell research (ESCR). There have been many claims of potential benefit, but none of them have

been substantiated. On the other hand, adult stem cells have been used successfully for cancer remission, rebuilding heart muscle, and treatment of leukemia, Parkinson's disease, and spinal cord injury, to name just a few.

### What are the ethical considerations that have been causing controversy?

Harvesting embryonic stem cells for research, cloning, or for in vitro fertilization, kills a living human embryo. Church teachings, as well as many people, oppose the direct destruction of innocent human life for any purpose. The opposite viewpoint holds that embryos aren't human, or, even if they are, that the potential good that can be derived from harvesting their stem cells outweighs their destruction.

### Is the destruction of the embryo inevitable?

One avenue scientists are working on is "altered nuclear transfer," which could be an ethical way to obtain cells without creating an embryo. In addition, some research can be done on animals; using germ cells from miscarried fetuses, with parental consent, is another possibility. There is an international move to legally limit the number of embryos conceived through in vitro fertilization by fertility clinics so that extra embryos won't be created, and then destroyed as "spares." However, these initiatives have been less successful in the U.S.

### Are there other ethical considerations?

Yes. We often hear that the religious view should be excluded from the debate because this is essentially a scientific issue. In reality, it is a humanitarian issue. One side takes the utilitarian view that the ethical standard should be the greatest good for the greatest number. But, who is deciding the good? The politically powerful, and those with resources, would be able to dictate the fate of the weak and vulnerable (the embryo). So for some advocacy groups, the rights and lives of one group of human beings can be abused or destroyed for the advancement of another group. For example, embryos can then be sacrificed for a good cause – a cure for some disease. The unborn child becomes nothing more than a commodity. The church believes that an evil means cannot justify a good end.

### Why is stem cell research such big news now?

There are at least two big reasons. One is that the ethical issues also have become political issues. For the Catholic Church, which is the biggest non-governmental health provider in the country, that can become a problem



when, as in some states, they are being told to violate their own tenets in the medical and life science fields. It might be in the area of providing abortion, abortifacients, end of life care, or stem cell research therapies.

There are also economic factors. In 1996, the federal government said that embryos deserve the same protection as fetuses, which meant there was not federal funding available for embryonic stem cell research. At the same time, private investors haven't seen the big payoff they anticipated from ESCR, and so are hesitant to make additional investments. That leaves the individual states as the best source of funds, which is why we have lobbyists trying to influence their state legislators to allocate funds. Some taxpayers favor state funding for ESCR, others oppose it. However, some opinions have been based on unsubstantiated promises of cures, and inaccurate redefinitions of the embryo as not being a human being.

One unfortunate result of the push for funds for ESCR is that some state governments have made it a priority, thus restricting public funding of the more successful adult stem cell research, slowing the medical breakthroughs we have seen from it.

### What do we tell someone who is ill and hoping for a cure from ESCR?

Other than informing them that our best hope, to date, is in adult stem cell research, we try to educate people on what some of the effects of science in this field can have on human life and dignity. Whenever a human being is destroyed, we all become vulnerable. We have come to the point where we label the discarded embryos as "spare embryos," forgetting that they are human. We say that they would be destroyed anyway if not implanted, so why not use them for research. What will that lead to along the slippery slope? Permission to experiment on or terminate the life of a terminally ill child?

### How does the NCBC offer help, and where can we get more information?

We try to educate through our Web site ([www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)) and our publications. Our staff travels throughout the country and world talking to groups. We also consult with individuals, groups, hospitals, health care agencies and providers, and policy makers on life science and medical issues. The other source we recommend is the American bishops' Web site at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org).

### New discovery to end controversy?

► Early in January, scientists at Wake Forest and Harvard Universities announced a new development in stem cell research: the stem cells found in the amniotic fluid of pregnant women may provide the same opportunities for medical use as embryonic stem cells. Although there needs to be much more research done, and preliminary tests in patients are years away, this discovery may eliminate any rationale for using embryonic stem cells.

Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragan expressed hope that the research would bear fruit – stating the church's position that there is no ethical problem with using stem cells from amniotic fluid, as long as the procedure involved in procuring them did not harm the mother or unborn child.

WASHINGTON THEOLOGICAL UNION

# ANSWER

to your prayers

Summer masters degrees

Convenient for your life



## COME & SEE

<http://summer.wtu.edu>

Three summer sessions:

- ❖ June 13 – July 3
- ❖ July 9 – July 27
- ❖ August 1 – August 17

- ❖ Designed for high school teachers, youth or campus ministers, DREs, pastoral associates
- ❖ Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies and Master of Theological Studies
- ❖ Outstanding faculty
- ❖ Financial aid available



6896 Laurel St., NW  
Washington, DC 20012  
800-334-9922 x5210  
[come&see@wtu.edu](mailto:come&see@wtu.edu)

A CATHOLIC GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

*For a Suitable Training in Holiness...*

## AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY Institute for Pastoral Theology



NOW ACCEPTING  
APPLICATIONS FOR  
FALL 2007 CLASSES IN

Charleston,  
South Carolina

Application Deadline:  
May 15, 2007

### MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

#### Our Commitment

- ◆ Theological Education – Formation of Mind
- ◆ Spiritual Formation – Conversion of Heart
- ◆ Pastoral Orientation – Prudential Wisdom

#### Format

- ◆ One Weekend a Month
- ◆ August – May
- ◆ Three-Year Cycle

#### For More Information

Toll Free: 866-866-1100  
Email: [ipt@avemaria.edu](mailto:ipt@avemaria.edu)  
Web: [www.ipt.avemaria.edu](http://www.ipt.avemaria.edu)







Holy Trinity,  
Williamston

# "Blessed are we...."

Msgr. Michael Shugrue, Vicar General for the Diocese; parishioner D.J. Williams; Sister Kieran Williams, Pastoral Administrator; and Bishop Michael Burbidge during the Bishop's recent pastoral visit to Holy Trinity, part of his road trip to kick off the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

**T**he Sunday I visited Holy Trinity Church in Williamston, the second reading was from First Corinthians: "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone." Fr. Frank Stangl, the priest serving this mission church that day, elaborated in his homily: "All the parts of the body work together and affect the others. Every part is necessary for the body to function as it should."

That image, every part contributing all it can to a vibrant community, accurately describes Holy Trinity, a parish with many needs and many gifts, a parish continually grateful and unfailingly generous.

The needs of the people in this poor, rural area are basic: food, shelter, clothing, heat and water. The parish's Caring House, in cooperation with the Food Bank of the Albermarle, is able to purchase and distribute food for a small fraction of its cost. Almost every parish event includes a meal, often with contributions from local restaurants. Recently parish members brought logs and blankets for a family without heat. The parish home and the Youth and Young Adult Center are frequently a shelter and safe haven for the temporarily homeless or victims of domestic abuse. Every member of the parish has a key to the church for

personal prayer as well as a place to cook, shower or receive clean water.

Holy Trinity has been wonderfully successful in mobilizing the generosity of not just its own members, but of Catholics from all over the diocese, (and elsewhere: for instance, volunteers from churches in Scranton, where the IHM Congregation has its motherhouse). Since 1999, more than 1,800 people of all ages have participated in themed mission trips to the parish. Help both from within the parish and outside have been instrumental in ongoing physical improvements to the church: a new sign, a covered picnic area on the grounds, a ramp for the disabled, and additions to the youth meeting areas at the parish home, including, most recently, a computer lab.

Sister Kieran Williams, IHM, pastoral administrator of Holy Trinity, talks about these

missions in terms of the Be-attitudes. "Except," she says, "they would begin 'Blessed are we...'" The people who come bring so many necessary items for roofing, carpeting, as well as clothes and food to share. The greatest gift they bring is themselves and being open to see the face of Christ in everyone they meet."

"We always look forward to the summer," Sister Kieran says. During those months, when school is out and many parents are working in the fields, the parish sponsors summer programs for the children. The county provides transportation and the children receive breakfast and lunch.

Volunteer teachers offer a bilingual fine arts program, with sports, music lessons, vacation Bible school and parish retreat.

"It's a miracle," is a phrase Sister Kieran uses frequently. It's not hard to believe her as she tells about the people, groups and grants (far too numerous to acknowledge in this article, although she names every one, from the Bishop's Annual Appeal, to other parishes in the diocese, to Holy Trinity's senior citizens, K of C, to Martin County agencies, to the Filipino "Tech Team"), who have gifted Holy Trinity, and tells stories of the dramatic differences these gifts have made in often tragic circumstances.

Through the leadership and outreach programs initiated by Sister Kieran, Sister Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, people have experienced God's unconditional love.

The gifted and hard working community at Holy Trinity Catholic Church continue to grow in their faith, as they see the face of Christ in one another and reflect a beacon of light and hope in Williamston, NC. ☩

— Rich Reece





## At 71, REBECCA LOVES to learn NEW THINGS.

*[Same as when she was 9.]* Yesterday, she tried tai chi. Last week, she had a bit of tofu. Today is Friday and Friday means chocolate cake! Healthy living with a touch of sugar is her goal. It's what keeps her young and what makes her happy here...



Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor  
Servants of the Mother of God

(336) 886-4103 or

toll free (866) 627-9343

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

# PENNYBYRN

at MARYFIELD

A Retirement Living Community



NP/NCC/ylng3



## *"When I'm gone, who will receive the gifts God gave me?"*

*A will is your answer to the question.*

60-70% of Americans die without a valid will. If you die without a will, the laws of the state you live in will determine how your assets are divided, including assets to your family. Without a will or other charitable estate plan, charitable desires you may have for your parish, Catholic school, campus ministry or the diocese will be ignored.

*Don't let your answer be silence.*



The Roman Catholic  
Diocese of Raleigh



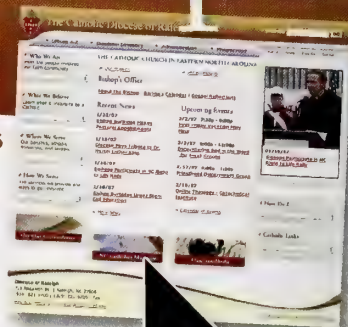
To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Debbie Rossi, Director of Stewardship & Development, 919-821-9721; 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606; [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org) or visit our web site for more information, [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)



# your church at your fingertips



- breaking, detailed diocesan news
- complete events calendar
- podcasting
- parish links
- Bishop's weekly gospel reflections – video and print versions



Go Now to

## www.dioceseofraleigh.org

### NC Catholics

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514  
95219 P 12 1094  
UNC CHAPEL HILL SERIALS DEPARTMENT 32  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
RALEIGH

pastor's perspective  
Moved to serve

la naturaleza de nuestra fe  
Celebramos la pascua

2252  
N 7c  
12-00

# NCCatholics

April 2007

\$2.00



## Restless hearts

Four spiritual journeys  
that led to the  
Catholic Church

from the bishop

Happiness comes and  
goes – joy endures

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

theology 101

What was Jesus really  
like after the resurrection?

parish profile

A place for children,  
St. Mary Magdalene



**A**s we celebrate the great feast of Easter and bask in its glory for the 50 days we call the Easter season, it seems appropriate to reflect on joy and how it is experienced by those who believe in the One risen from the dead, Jesus Christ.

I would like to explore two things with you: 1. What is Christian joy? and 2. Why would we celebrate the joy of Easter for 50 days?

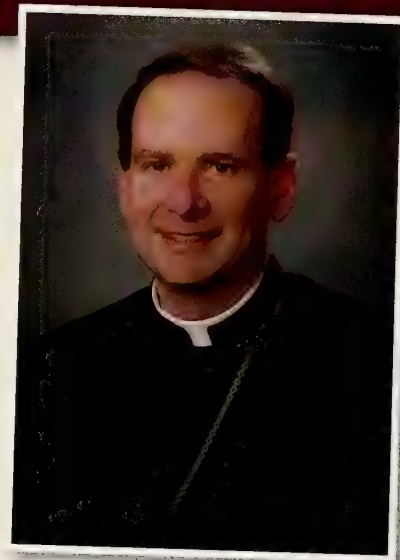
Joy is a gift of the Holy Spirit. In Galatians, Paul tells us that it is one of the spiritual gifts, second after love (5:22). It comes as pure gift from God. Happiness is a common, but incorrect, synonym for joy. Happiness is something that comes and goes; joy penetrates to our very soul – it endures. Happiness is when all is as we wish it; joy can exist in the midst of suffering and setbacks. Joy comes when we are at peace with God, ourselves and one another.

Christian joy is a gift that remains, regardless of what else is happening in one's life. It's frequently seen in the lives of the saints, even martyrs, and in the lives of those we love and admire. I will never forget the last time I was in the presence of our beloved Pope John Paul II. It was months before his death and at a time he was experiencing significant physical suffering. Yet, he radiated calmness, serenity and spiritual joy. He taught us that even in the midst of crosses we can have joy. His example was infectious. No doubt, he inspired countless numbers of people and helped them to let go of any sense of defeat or despair.

I believe all Christians possess the gift of joy, but not all manifest its fruits. How is it that some people radiate joy in the midst of the sufferings, crosses and the struggles of daily life? I believe it is because they have an intimate relationship with the Lord and trust in the new life He offers them. They have experienced the mercy of God made visible in the One who became sin for them and for all people and who redeemed the world through his blood.

Each year, we enter into the great feast of the paschal triduum, the three days, which culminates with the celebrations of the great Easter Vigil on Saturday night and Mass on Easter Sunday. We expend great effort to make these liturgies the highlight of our year, because, in them, we celebrate the highlight of our faith: the Passion, death and Resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

So important is this feast and its fruits that the Church in her wisdom provides us with 50 days to celebrate and experience the joy that is ours through Christ's paschal mystery. With God's grace, may you experience and celebrate joy this Easter triduum and Easter season by allowing our Redeemer to embrace you with His never-ending love.



Happiness is a common, but incorrect, synonym for joy. Happiness is something that comes and goes; joy penetrates to our very soul – it endures. Happiness is when all is as we wish it; joy can exist in the midst of suffering and setbacks. Joy comes when we are at peace with God, ourselves and one another.

# Rejoice!

– Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is Bishop of Raleigh.





## cover story

### ► Restless Hearts

Four spiritual journeys that led to the Catholic Church

## 16 el hispano católico

### Corazones inquietos

Las jornadas espirituales que llevaron a cuatro personas a unirse a la Iglesia Católica

– Rich Reece

## 18 Ya que usted lo pregunta...

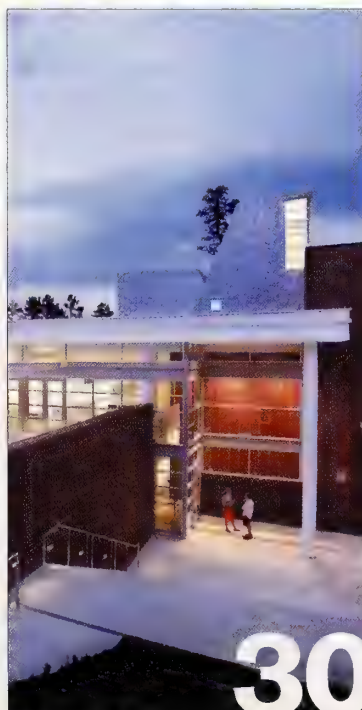
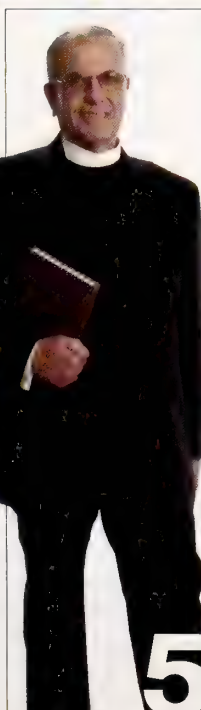
En el Credo Niceno decimos, “Espero .... y la vida del mundo futuro.” ¿Qué dice la Iglesia sobre esa vida?

– Padre Jonathan A Woodhall, Ph. D.

## 19 Obispo Burbidge

### ¡Regocijense!

– Obispo Michael F. Burbidge



# inside

what you'll get out of this issue

## from the bishop

### 2 Rejoice!

– Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

## from the editor

### 5 How joy feels.

– Rich Reece

## since you asked ...

6 Dear NCC: In the Nicene Creed, we pray, “We look for... the life of world to come.” How much does the Church say we can know about that life?

– Fr. Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D.

## parish poll

7 What makes you happy?

## theology 101

8 What was Jesus really like after the resurrection? How would he look and sound? A conversation about Christology with seminary professors.

– Elizabeth Solsburg

## voices in our church

11 Moved to serve – Msgr. Thomas Hadden

11 Celebramos la pascua – Padre Fernando Torres

## your marriage matters

20 She says: He doesn't know how to dress right without my help.

He says: She's not my mother – I can pick my own clothes.

What do they do?

– Deb McCormack

## the parenting journey

21 You decided what?! How we allow our children to grow up.

– Dr. Cathleen McGreal

## spiritual fitness

22 You make me want to shout! Moving from somber to celebration.

– Father Bill Ashbaugh

## parish profile

30 A place for children

St. Mary Magdalene, Apex.

– Rich Reece



# NC Catholics

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

April 2007 • Vol. 3 : Issue 3

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Ernie Abrahamson  
Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Fr. Robert J. Kus  
Dana Lorelle  
Fr. Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Irene Gonzalez  
TRANSLATOR

Frank Bua  
Denmark Photo & Video (cover)  
Hutzler Photography  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Enomhen Odigie  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Jillane Job  
SUBSCRIPTIONS/SECRETARY

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Derek Melot  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@catholic.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. © 2005 FAITH Publishing Service™. Catholic Diocese of Lansing. © 2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.



Sister Anna Laura of the Nashville Dominicans was one of the speakers who helped draw record attendance at this year's Ignited by Truth Conference.

## Fifth annual Ignited by Truth Conference draws record attendance

►► Being ignited by the Catholic faith, and passing this fire to others, was again the focus of the fifth annual Ignited by Truth Conference, which drew 1,200 attendees to Cardinal Gibbons Catholic High School Feb. 16-17, according to conference organizer Ursula Ruiz.

In a welcome letter to participants, Bishop Michael Burbidge echoed this dual purpose: "It is my hope that this conference will deepen your spiritual lives by training your minds and hearts in the foundational teachings of our faith," he wrote. "It is also my prayer that you will be renewed in your desire not only to know more about the faith but also to carry that faith into the world."

Bishop Burbidge celebrated the closing Mass Saturday evening, attended by more than 800. In his homily, the bishop spoke of the need to forgive others as God forgives us in the sacrament of reconciliation. He pointed out that in the Eucharist we can find the strength to be an instrument of God's mercy.

Beginning Friday evening, a lineup of nationally known speakers, interspersed with student-gear'd discussions about vocations and campus activism, urged the attendees to recognize and transmit the gems within their Catholic faith and to underscore their lives with prayer. Among the speakers were Steve Wood, the founder of St. Joseph's Covenant Keepers and the Family Life Center International; Peter Kreeft, an author and professor of philosophy at Boston College; and Mark Shea, an author and columnist for Catholic publications.

In addition, Diocese of Raleigh seminarians Mike Spurr and Michael Burbeck led a student workshop on discerning vocations for men. Sister Anna Laura of the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia (popularly known as the Dominican Sisters of Nashville) and Carol Restaine of the Missioners of Christ led a similar workshop for young women. Both Sister



Anna Laura and Restaine gave talks later that day, as well.

Also in attendance were a dozen priests from the Diocese of Raleigh, many of whom heard confessions throughout the day. As in past years, Father Dan Oswald held the title of "beloved pastor and spiritual adviser" for the conference.

"From the get-go, we have really invoked the Holy Spirit at every level of what we do, from speaker selection onwards," he said. "I think the thing that always amazes me is the number of new participants every year." Attendance at the conference has increased each year.

Seminarian Tony DeCandia drove seven hours from Maryland after finishing his comprehensive exams to attend his first Ignited by Truth Conference. "For me, any time you can get a group of people together like this, that's the Holy Spirit," he said. "It's like a Catholic homecoming."

For John and Melissa Endredy of Greensboro it was truly that, as they introduced their seven-month-old son to friends. The couple moved from Apex a year ago, but John continues to coordinate and organize the ministry setup for the conference — a job that entails communicating with nearly 40 vendors.

"In God's providence, when He invited me to be ministry coordinator, He must have known that I'd be moving and needed a ministry where I wouldn't have to be in Apex or in this diocese," he said. As to why he continues to serve from the Diocese of Charlotte, he said, "This conference is probably for many people their only catechesis for the year, and it has to be done well, because there are too many people on the edge of leaving the Church. Those reasons transcend dioceses." — Dana Lorelle



Give the gift of  
NCCatholics.

Order a subscription today

919.821.9730





The Amazing Grace Dancers from the Archdiocese of Atlanta performed at the diocesan AAMEN celebration at St. Mary's in Wilmington. (Photo by Frank Bua.)

## AAMEN celebrates ancestral and cultural expression

► On Feb. 18, the Diocese of Raleigh's African Ancestry Ministry & Evangelization (AAMEN) groups celebrated "Ancestral & Cultural Expression" at St. Mary Catholic Church and Shrine in Wilmington. Martha Carter-Bailey, the diocesan director of AAMEN, served as mistress-of-ceremonies for this event, held in honor of Black History Month.

Guests from all over the Diocese of Raleigh gathered to participate. Among the parishes represented were: St. Gabriel in Greenville, St. Mary in Goldsboro, St. Paul in New Bern, St. Ann in Fayetteville, St. Mark in Wilmington, St. Joseph in Raleigh, Sacred Heart Cathedral in Raleigh, St. Raphael in Raleigh, Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Rocky Mount and St. Michael in Cary.

Special guests included Fr. Pius Wekesa from the Archdiocese of Nairobi, Kenya, and Padre Marcos Leon, parochial vicar of St. Mark Catholic Church.

Patrice Blemur and the St. Mary Gospel Choir provided the music for the event, and Joyce Moreaux provided the poetry.

The undisputed "stars" of the event, though, were the Amazing Grace Dancers from the Archdiocese of Atlanta, who performed three interpretative dances: "I know I've been changed," "Shower down," and "Psalm 8." The dancers, under the direction of Kenya Griffin, received a standing ovation.

Following the event, guests gathered in St. Mary School Cafeteria, decorated in Mardi Gras style, for a delicious buffet.

*Very Rev. Robert J. Kus, pastor and rector of St. Mary Parish, Wilmington and a consulting faculty in nursing at Duke University and University of North Carolina Wilmington.*

## Bishop's Annual Appeal update

► As of March 2, more than 26,000 parishioners in the diocese had pledged \$5,620,651 to the BAA. By the evening of March 4, all but eight parishes had reported reaching goal. The overall BAA goal for 2007 was \$4,378,107.

## How joy feels

**F**or a few years now, I've kept a journal. I don't manage to write daily — sometimes there are gaps of a week or so. But, over time, the journal has still been a good emotional and spiritual "weather log." By tracking the ups and downs in my life, I learn a little about myself and some of things I need to work on to be the person God intended me to be.

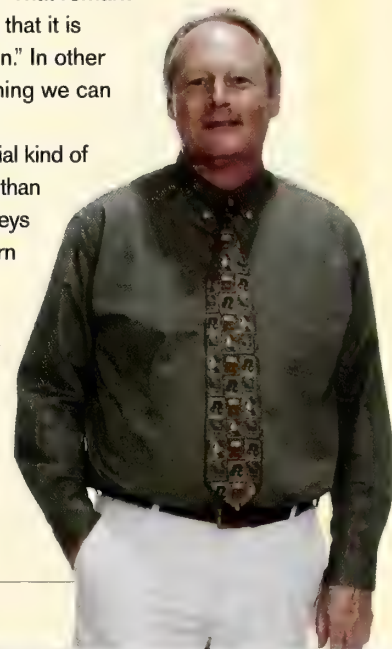
The other day, I came across an old entry from a "low" patch. I'd written simply, "Where is joy? What does it feel like?" As I tried to remember the times I knew I'd been joyful, the feeling was easy to identify. It wasn't happiness (as Bishop Burbidge points out in his column this month); it wasn't some kind of ecstasy, like you see on the faces of winning game show contestants. The feeling I remembered from those times was a rush of gratitude — a spontaneous need to thank God, right then, for my life, for His gifts to me.

Benedictine Brother David Steindl-Rast has written wonderfully about gratitude and joy, and he points out why the two are connected: "That remarkable 'plus' ... is added to my joy as soon as I perceive that it is given to me by another, and necessarily another person." In other words, our souls somehow know that joy is not something we can give ourselves. It is given to us by others, and by God.

This month, as Easter arrives, you'll read about a special kind of joy experienced by four men and women who, like more than 600 others in our diocese, are completing spiritual journeys that have led them to the Catholic Church. You'll also learn (on page 6) what the church tells us about the joyful completion of all our journeys, "the life of the world to come." I've wasted my share of time wondering, as many of you may have, "What is heaven like?" I have no idea. One thing I'm sure of, though: When I arrive, the first words out of my soul will be "Thank You."

*Thank you, readers, for your letters and input. You can write me at 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC or reece@raldioc.org.*

— Richard Reece is the editor of NC Catholics.



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

FIRST FRIDAY  
VOCATIONS  
HOLY HOUR

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL

MAY 4<sup>TH</sup> AND JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND  
RELIGIOUS LIFE IN THE DIOCESE OF RALEIGH.

MUSIC & CONFESSIONS — 7:30 P.M.

HOLY HOUR — 8:00 P.M.

MUSIC AND RECEPTION TO FOLLOW.

► For further information and a calendar of upcoming vocations holy hours, visit [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org).

► Visit [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/news/VH-Hflyer.pdf](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/news/VH-Hflyer.pdf) to download the Holy Hours flyer.

► Visit the Vocations office on-line at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/vocations](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/vocations).



# dear NCC

This month with  
Father Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D.

**Dear NCC:** In the Nicene Creed, we pray, "We look for... the life of world to come." How much does the Church say we can know about that life?

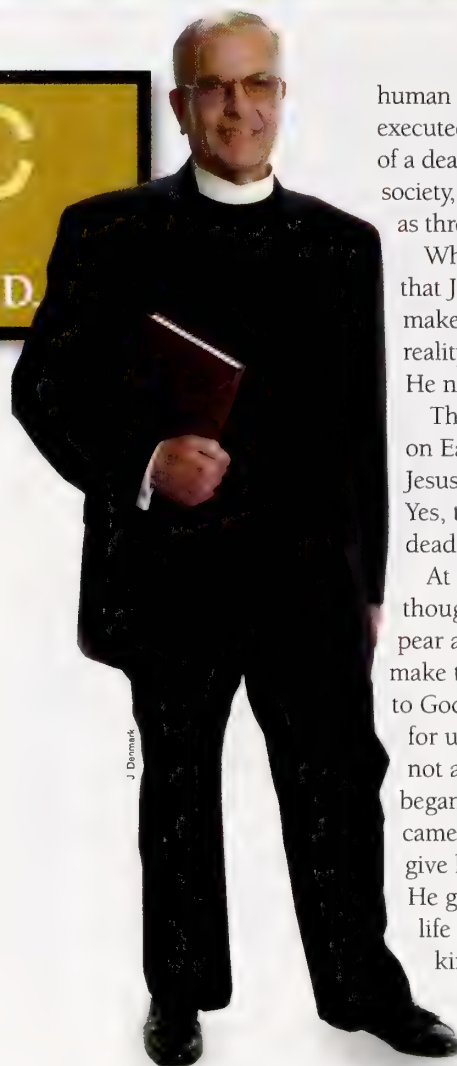
**B**elief in "the life of the world to come" goes to the heart of what defines a Christian. The earliest creeds were summaries of the content of faith that a new Christian would accept before being baptized. These creeds, in turn, depended on belief in everlasting life and in those writings that finally became what we now call the New Testament. The letters of Paul, the four canonical gospels, the catholic epistles of James, Peter, John and Jude and, finally, that poetic writing called, alternately, Revelation or Apocalypse all pass on the oral traditions of the early followers of Jesus.

Future life was preached by John the Baptist and others who expected an end to the world as they knew it and a transformation into something else. Many others at that time preached what is technically called eschatological thinking or, more simply put, the idea that God would dramatically intervene in the created world, deposing secular rulers who were unjust and oppressive. God would make right all that was wrong with the world as we know it and initiate a new order based on justice. God would reward the poor and all who suffered because of sinful humans who had turned from him.

This new order of things would happen because of Jesus and was called the Parousia in Greek. Although the main point of the preaching of Jesus of Nazareth focused on hypocrisy – specifically the hypocrisy of the religious leaders of his day – Jesus, too, taught that the world would become different if humans lived a life of love of God and neighbor.

The picture of eschatological life was first drawn with the brush of experienced human earthly life. By

this, I mean that Hebrew and then early Christian notions all shared the same understanding that



human beings. Not only was He executed, but crucified by means of a death reserved for the dregs of society, criminals who were seen as threats to civilized society.

What happened to the idea that Jesus would be the one to make the kingdom of God a reality in this world now that He no longer was alive?

The unexpected happened on Easter morning. The dead Jesus was experienced as alive. Yes, the resurrection of the dead was real.

At first, His followers thought that Jesus would appear again on this earth and make this new earth conform to God's plan for happiness for us humans. But Jesus did not appear and His followers began to understand that Jesus came, in the words of John, to give life in abundance. The life He gave was different from the life that was expected. The kingdom of God was seen as within believers, in the words of Luke.

Early on, Paul ad-

►► Of all God's creatures it appears that only humans are curious about the future. While this curiosity is normal, we might be best served by heeding John's advice. "Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is." (1Jn 3:2)

life on this earth would change, would be transformed by God into a life of happiness based on worshiping the true God in truth by living this human life in peace and justice.

People were attracted to Jesus because of what He taught and how He lived. Then Jesus died. I suppose that none of us can fully grasp what the death of Jesus meant to those who left everything to follow Him. They saw Him arrested, tortured and executed by authority of godless

vised Christians not to dwell on what kind of bodies nor on what kind of world would exist for believers. Slowly, the idea of an imminent end of the world faded and Christians came to accept that life in the world to come was unknowable, yet proven by the belief that Jesus rose from the dead. This resurrection was to be shared by all who confessed Him as Lord.

From these early understandings of the nature of the life of the world to come bloomed a development of doctrine that



## in what year was Abraham Lincoln assassinated?

►► While observing a performance of *Our American Cousin* at Ford's Theater in Washington D.C., Abraham Lincoln, the 16th American president, was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth. He died **April 15, WHAT YEAR?**



►► It was felt as far north as southern Oregon, and as far south as Los Angeles. Breaching the northern 296 miles of the San Andreas Fault, and causing catastrophic damage, the Great San Francisco Earthquake occurred at 5:12 a.m. on **April 18, WHAT YEAR?**

►► Despite a heart condition, Wilbur Wright, together with his brother Orville, developed the first effective airplane beginning in 1900, finishing it in 1903. Wilbur Wright was born on **April 16, WHAT YEAR?**

►► Isidore, Spanish scholar and archbishop of Seville, whose most extensive work included his *Etymologies*, an encyclopedia that used liberal arts and secular learning as the foundation of Christian education, died on **April 4, WHAT YEAR?**

Answers: 1865, 1906, 1867, 636

tried to bridge the gap between disappointment in not seeing Jesus as a type of savior who would immediately change life in this world and in the belief in His conquering death. The new world to come began to be understood as a more spiritual world rather than this material world. But still Jesus would appear again in this world.

Over the ensuing centuries, two notions appeared to answer questions about what happens after we die: The idea that when a believer died he would face his Maker immediately and be judged and that sometime in the future this material world would, in fact, end and a general judgment of all humans who ever lived would occur.

Of all God's creatures, it appears that only humans are curious about the future. While this curiosity is normal, we might

be best served by heeding John's advice. "Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is." (1Jn 3:2)

— Fr. Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D., is a retired priest of the diocese, who is involved in RCIA education and Spanish Ministry at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Raleigh.

### Send your questions to:

"Since you asked ..."

715 Nazareth St.,  
Raleigh, NC 27606  
Or: reece@raldioc.org

## Happiness is.... What makes you happy?

This month, we asked students from Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Rocky Mount: **What makes you happy?**

### Celeste, kindergarten

My mom and dad loving me.



### Justin, grade 1

When children are nice to me.



### Hannah, grade 2

What makes me happy is Mom and Dad hugging me. Mom makes me happy hugging hard.



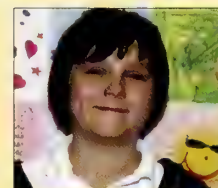
### Josef, grade 2

I don't know why, but homework and school work make me happy. I like my toys, games and cars, but it is being at school that makes me very happy.



### Patrick, grade 4

What makes me happy is getting right out of confession and feeling the Holy Spirit. I am free of sin and feel great. I know I will do my best not to commit the sin that makes me unhappy.



### Brittney, grade 5

What really makes me happy is knowing I am me and I don't have to be someone else! God created me and loves me!



## NCC online resources

- More Catholic questions, answers and online discussion: [www.CatholicQandA.org](http://www.CatholicQandA.org)
- Know an inactive Catholic? Invite them to visit [www.OnceCatholic.org](http://www.OnceCatholic.org)
- Diocesan Division of Evangelization and Catechesis: **919.821.9746**




theologian  
of the month

### Anselm of Canterbury (c. 1033-1109)

**Anselm** was born in Burgundy and was the noble son of Gundulph and Eormenberga. After his mother died, he fled his father's harsh temper and traveled a while before coming to Normandy and entering the abbey at Bec when he was 27.

**Anselm** became the abbot, building Bec into a formidable academic power and writing several theological works. He was the archbishop of Canterbury from 1093-1109, and was renowned as a philosopher and theologian. His famous ontological arguments for the existence of God still influence theological thought today.

**Anselm's Christological position** rests on the concept of the atonement — if our sins have wounded God's honor, God's justice demands satisfaction, which, as a penalty for man, must be of man. Since God is infinite, the satisfaction must also be infinite, and therefore divine. Only in Jesus could this be accomplished.

How would  
he look and  
sound?

# what was Jesus really like after the Resurrection?

**T**his year, *NCCatholics* is exploring Christology — the study of Jesus Christ. We asked several eminent seminary professors some questions about Jesus. Their answers are enlightening and thought-provoking.

**NCC:** If we met Jesus the moment after the Resurrection, how would he look and sound? Could we touch him? Why did so many of his friends not recognize him?

## Meet the professors



Father Acklin



Father Muller



Father Stevens

**Father Thomas Acklin** is a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa. He is a graduate of Duquesne University, St. Vincent Seminary, The Catholic University of Louvain and Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Institute.

**Father Earl Muller** is The Bishop Kevin M. Britt Professor of Theology/Christology at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. He formerly taught at Marquette University in Wisconsin.

**Father Gladstone Stevens** is on the faculty of St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.

**Father Acklin:** All we have to go by are the Gospel accounts. The skepticism of the last several centuries has affected us overmuch. I am not a literalist or fundamentalist in a negative sense, but we go too far if we become very skeptical about what really happened. The historical elements are very important. But the most important element is faith — it is not so much proving what “really happened” as understanding that the Resurrection was an event that took place in time, yet reaches into every moment of time and



**Heresy!**

**Monarchianism: Jesus is holy, not divine**

►► **This heresy has nothing to do with kings and queens – or butterflies.** Its name is rooted in the Greek *monarches*, or “one rule.” Dynamic Monarchians taught that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit were three persons, one God. They taught that God is one person – the Father. Jesus is a man and the Holy Spirit is a “presence” of God the Father. Jehovah’s Witnesses are modern examples of Dynamic Monarchians. Some Dynamic Monarchians were also adoptionists, which will be discussed later. Modal Monarchianism teaches that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are modes of a single person – God. So, Jesus is God the Father, simply in a different mode or form. Modern examples are some Pentecostal and Apostolic churches, which teach that the name of the one God is really Jesus and that baptism must occur in his name, not in the name of the Trinity.

beyond time. I think the appearance of the risen Lord – the variety of the Gospel accounts – is explained by the subjectivity of the recipients. Jesus had already gone beyond space and time. He had already descended into hell and come back into space and time in some ways. Yet, Jesus invites people to touch him – to eat meals with him. The tendency to explain away the bodily resurrection diminishes our own bodily significance – we are going to live exactly as Jesus: in transformed bodies. As Paul says, if Jesus did not rise from the dead, then our faith is in vain.

**In terms of recognition, when someone is changed, you don’t necessarily recognize them immediately. You go to high-school reunions, and someone looks vaguely familiar and you know you should recognize them, but it takes some kind of action to jar the memory.**

**Father Muller:** According to the Gospel accounts, you could touch Jesus after the Resurrection. When he tells Mary not to do so, it’s cryptic – he is letting her know that their relationship has changed. When Jesus appeared to the disciples, it could have given them the impression that their relationship was going to go back to what it had been before the crucifixion. Jesus is saying that isn’t the case – their relationships will be transformed. In terms of his appearance, we don’t have a clear idea of the properties of a resurrected



**what does that symbol mean?**

**Alpha and Omega**  
 Jesus is called the alpha and omega in the Book of Revelation.

Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet and omega the last. So, this symbol indicates that Jesus is the beginning and end – the all.

body. Jesus could appear behind locked doors; clearly there was some sort of change that took place in his relationship to bodiliness. In terms of recognition, when someone is changed, you don’t necessarily recognize them immediately. You go to high-school reunions, and someone looks vaguely familiar and you know you should recognize them, but it takes some kind of action to jar the memory. And so some did not recognize him until he broke bread with them.

**Father Stevens:** It is interesting how reticent the Gospels are about providing a physical description. There are two texts about how we recognize him after the Resurrection. One is Paul’s conversion story, where Jesus says, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” In this, Jesus makes no distinction between himself and his community. This is how we are to recognize him – it is in the lowly that we find Christ. (Mt 25) His followers also recognized him in the breaking of the bread – at that moment, they said, “Our hearts were burning within us.” The recognition makes us more, bigger. Read the *Magnificat* – Mary’s heart is enlarged, increased. We are made bigger because the Word is made present – whenever our hearts burn, that’s the recognition.

– Elizabeth  
 Solsburg

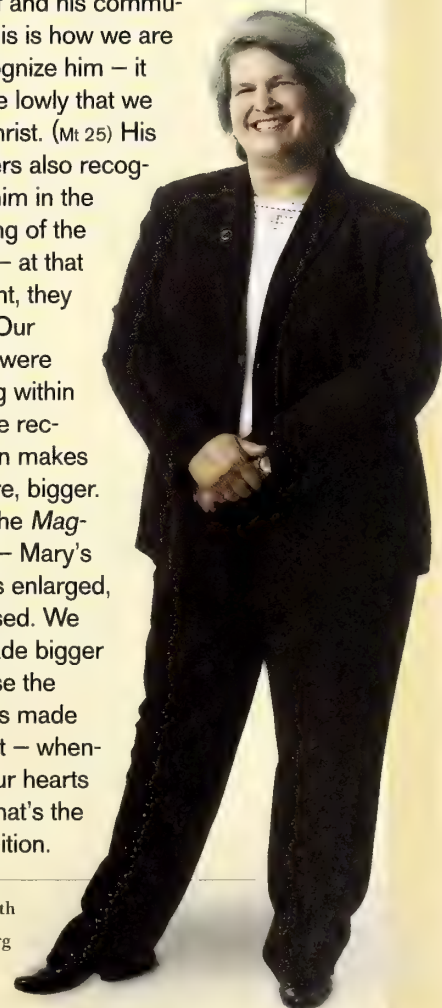
**Bible Quiz**

**Magician or fraud? – who am I?**

**Magic, magic, I love magic.** Lots of people believed I could fly whenever I wanted. Could I? I’ll never tell! I’m mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles, not the most flattering portrayal of my magnificence – if I do say so myself. There I was, practicing magic in the town square – and perhaps collecting a donation or two – when I heard Philip preaching about Jesus Christ. In

that moment, I believed – I really did – and I went out on missionary work. Was it really so much to ask that the apostles share the power of calling down the Holy Spirit? I mean, I was willing to pay them for it! In fact, my name has become the root of the word describing the sin of paying for church offices. **Who am I?**

►► **Turn to page 30 for the answer**





## He lived on a haunted island

### He predicted his own death

**Saint Guthlac of Mercia**  
**Feast Day: April 11**

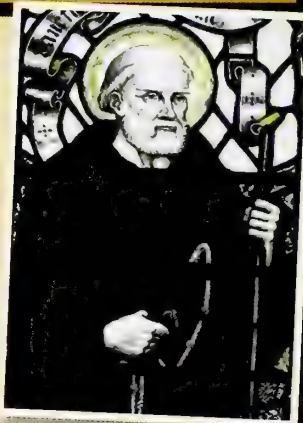
**Claim to fame:** Related to the royalty of Mercia, Guthlac was a young man when he began to serve in the army of Mercia's King Ethelred. This so-called army may have operated more like a band of thieves, ravaging the countryside along the Welsh border and collecting extensive bounty. After nine lucrative years in the king's service, Guthlac abandoned this way of life. Filled with remorse, Guthlac took his vows and gave much of his war booty back to his victims. Then he joined a Benedictine abbey at Repton in Derbyshire, England, where Elinda was abbess. His austere lifestyle, however, made him unpopular with the other monks. Guthlac longed for a life of solitude and began his search for an isolated place to live as a hermit.

**What made him a saint:** Around 699, Guthlac and a few companions moved to a remote, marshy island in the Fens that was thought to be "haunted by evil spirits and monsters." They settled in, although Guthlac apparently hated it there. Guthlac lived a life of severe penance, subsisting on bread and water, eating only after sundown.

**Best quote:** One day, he gave sanctuary to Ethelbald, who was fleeing his cousin, Coelred. Guthlac told Ethelbald that he would be king one day. Ethelbald promised to build Guthlac an abbey if his prophecy became true. Ethelbald did become king, and, even though Guthlac had died two years previously, kept his word and started construction of Croyland Abbey on St. Bartholomew's Day, 716 C.E.

**How he died:** Word of Guthlac's sanctity and his gift of prophecy spread. Despite his isolation, many came to seek his advice. This included the bishop of Litchfield, who ordained Guthlac. Supposedly, Guthlac even predicted his own death. He died in 714 AD.

**Prayer:** *Just as Guthlac believed in helping all of your creatures, dear Lord, may I do what I can to care for wild-life. Help me to protect their environment and by doing so, leave the animals in peace with plenty of land and food to flourish. May I constantly remember that they are a treasured part of your glorious creation. Amen.* —Jan Rynearson



## San Guthlac

### una vida de penitencia

**Lugar de Nacimiento: Mercia**  
**Día del Santo: 11 de Abril**

**Lo que lo hizo santo:** Emparentado con la realeza de Mercia, Guthlac era joven cuando comenzó a servir en el ejército del Rey Ethelred de Mercia. Este así llamado ejército pudo haber actuado más bien como una banda de ladrones, saqueando los campos de la frontera galesa y recogiendo abundantes recompensas. Luego de nueve años lucrativos al servicio del Rey, Guthlac abandonó esta forma de vida. Lleno de remordimiento hizo los votos y les devolvió mucho de su botín de guerra a sus víctimas. Luego ingresó a la abadía Benedictina de Repton donde Elinda era abadesa. Su estilo de vida austero, sin embargo, le granjeó la antipatía de los otros monjes. Guthlac anhelaba llevar una vida solitaria y comenzó a buscar algún lugar aislado para vivir como ermitaño.

**Lo que lo hizo santo:** Alrededor del año 699, Guthlac y algunos de sus compañeros se mudaron a una isla remota pantanosa, en los Fens, que se creía que estaba "embrujada por espíritus malignos y monstruos." Allí se establecieron, aunque Guthlac aparentemente odiaba ese lugar. Guthlac llevó una vida de extrema penitencia, sobreviviendo con pan y agua, comiendo solamente luego de la puesta del sol.

**Su mejor cita:** Un día, le dio refugio a Ethelbald, que estaba huyendo de su primo, Coelred. Guthlac le dijo a Ethelbald que un día él iba a ser Rey - Ethelbald prometió que le construiría a Guthlac una abadía si su profecía se convertía en realidad. Ethelbald llegó a ser Rey, y aunque Guthlac ya hacía dos años que se había muerto, Ethelbald cumplió con su promesa y comenzó la construcción de la Abadía de Croyland el día de San Bartolomeo en el año 716 e.C.

**Forma en la que murió:** La noticia de la santidad de Guthlac y de su don de profecía se divulgó, y a pesar de su aislamiento, muchos se acercaron a buscar su consejo. Entre ellos el Obispo de Litchfield, quien lo ordenó sacerdote. Supuestamente, él además le predijo la muerte. Guthlac murió en el 714 d.C.

**Oración:** Así como Guthlac creía en ayudar a todas tus criaturas, querido Señor, permíteme hacer todo lo que pueda para cuidar de la naturaleza. Ayúdame a proteger el medio ambiente y al hacer esto, dejar a los animales en paz para que crezcan bien con abundante espacio y alimentos. Haz que yo recuerde constantemente que ellos son parte preciada de tu gloriosa creación. Amén.

—Escrito por Transline USA



## Moved to serve

**I** have been touched by people telling me how they enjoy, and are informed by, my *NC Catholics* articles. I do enjoy writing them and am pleased they are well received.

This month, I write about a young man whose story will fill you with joy. When I was pastor of St. Mary in Wilmington, a couple in the parish, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Wiggins, introduced me to twins, a boy and a girl. Their father, Mrs. Wiggins' brother, had died, and their mother was having trouble raising four children. So Mr. and Mrs. Wiggins had gone to Baltimore and brought Leontyne and Leon Bell to Wilmington and eventually adopted them.

Leontyne and Leon were instructed in the Catholic faith and baptized. They became altar servers and lectors. When they graduated from high school, the two enrolled at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University in Greensboro, one of the historical black universities in the state. They are still students there.

They have blossomed and grown. One of the great influences in their lives in Greensboro is Thea House, the Catholic Student Center for the university. This is the only Catholic Student Center at a black university in the state. Leon and I speak together frequently by phone and he comes to visit me.

Leon made communications his major. He is a gifted writer. One play he wrote so impressed his professor that the professor sent it to other state universities and had it copyrighted. Soon after arriving in Greensboro, Leon volunteered to work with high school students at the YMCA on the campus. Then he was asked to help in mentoring a young man, and eventually became active in Big Brothers.

These experiences with youth at risk led him to a career change. He went to his communications professor and told him he was contemplating changing his major.

He had decided that he would become a social worker. His professor said he hated to lose such a talented student, but if there is one thing that is needed, it is more black men as social workers.

Leon's change of major added an extra year to his college career. He did not mind it. He is still active in mentoring and helping youth at risk. His example needs to be emulated.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden



## Celebremos la Pascua

**E**n nuestras tradiciones encontramos numerosas actividades durante el tiempo de la preparación de la Pascua (Cuaresma) que tiene un ambiente de penitencia: la abstinencia, el rezo del Vía crucis, días de reflexión y procesiones y largas horas de confesiones. Las celebraciones durante los días de Semana Santa para muchos llegan solo hasta el Viernes Santo.

Vivimos la preparación durante cuarenta días de Cuaresma, pero no la celebración durante los cincuenta días de Pascua. Celebramos el dolor, la Pasión y la muerte del Señor dentro de la celebración del Triduo Pascual, pero no celebramos su resurrección. Sentimos su dolor, su Cruz, pero no la alegría y la esperanza del resucitado.

Confesamos convencidos que Cristo muere por mis pecados, pero no comprendemos el gozo de la fe renovada al vivir la resurrección. Contemplamos el dolor del calvario, pero nos cuesta trabajo encontrar en los rostros del prójimo al resucitado. Trabajamos en nuestro proceso de reconocernos pecadores, pero nos cuesta trabajo comprender nuestra misión de "testigos del resucitado"

En la Pascua reconocemos su presencia en nuestras celebraciones, especialmente en la fracción del pan, convencidos de que Él es el Cordero de la nueva Pascua, Él es el Mesías y Libertador que por los méritos de su Pasión, muerte y resurrección nos ha dado una nueva vida. Esa nueva realidad nos ayuda a crecer en la fe y en la vida para encontrarnos con el Señor, como se apareció en medio de sus discípulos cuando tenían miedo, cuando estaban en la cárcel o les daba nuevas fuerzas para salir a anunciar el nuevo reino y la vida nueva.

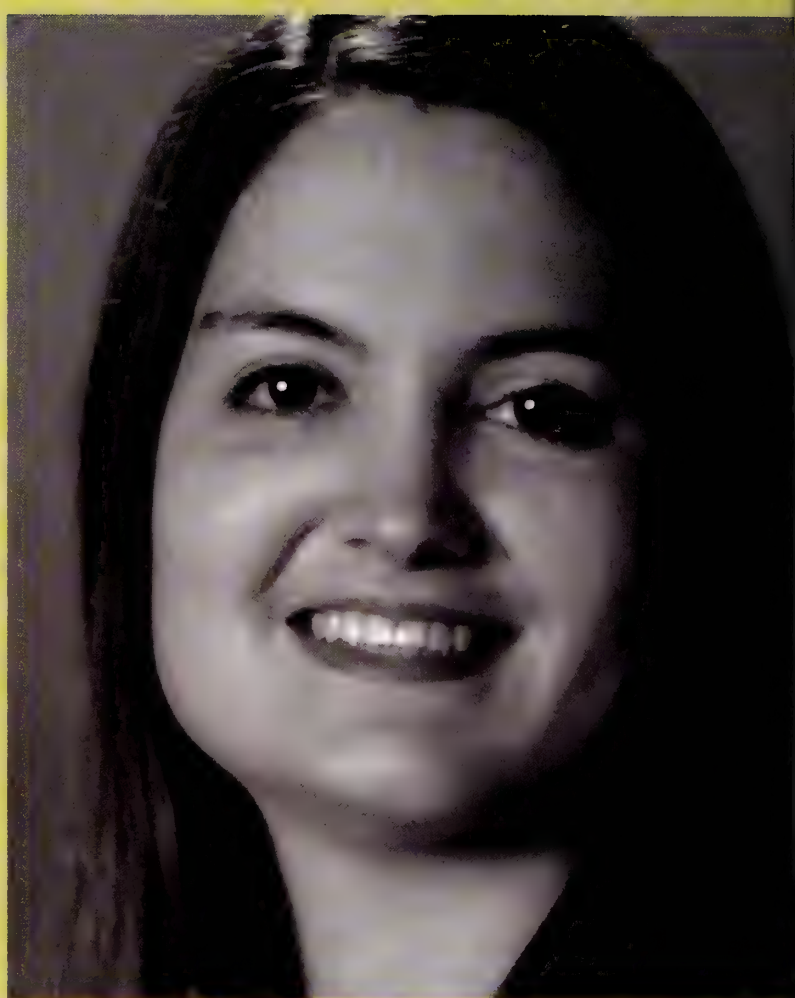
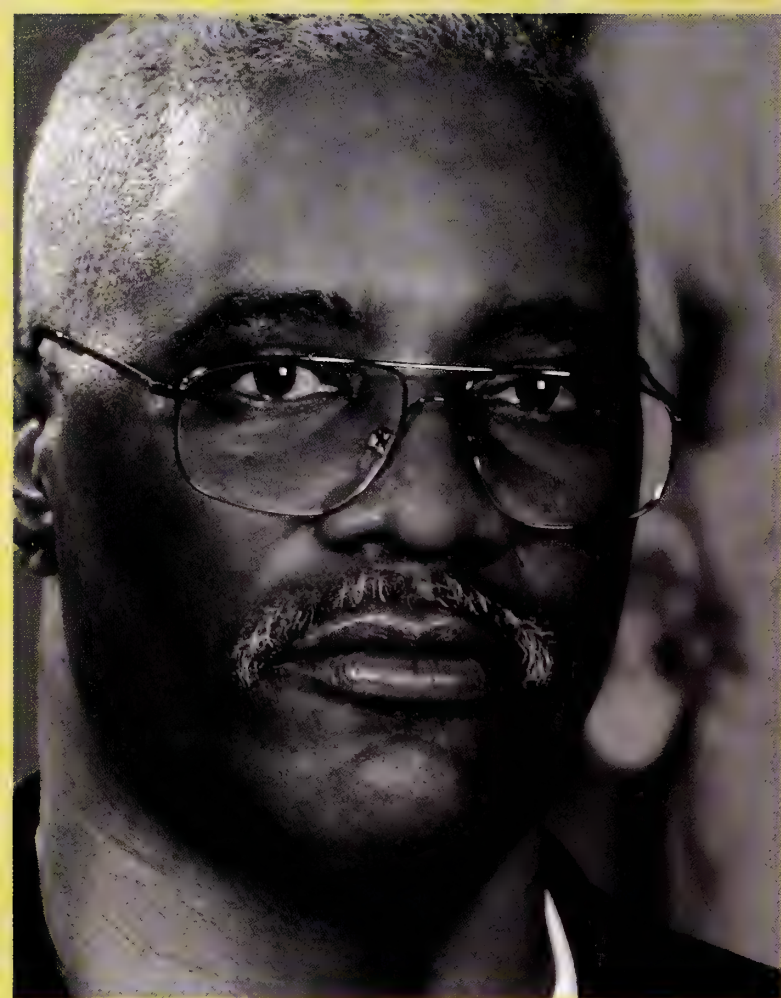
También hoy el está presente en medio de su pueblo, buscando un encuentro con cada uno de nosotros los que decimos que tenemos fe o dudamos de su resurrección, para animarnos, para que vivamos su resurrección y su victoria sobre el pecado y la muerte. Para comunicarnos su paz ó para preguntarnos como a Saúl: "¿Por qué me persigues?" Porque seguimos en guerra, en odios y divisiones, porque no reconocemos la dignidad de todos los seres humanos, sus derechos a vivir, a educarse, a un trabajo digno, a vivir con su familia y a profesar su fe, porque no vivimos su amor como nos lo enseñó.

¿Cómo podríamos celebrar la Pascua hoy?

— Padre Fernando Torres











# 1 Restless hearts

Four spiritual journeys  
that led to the  
Catholic Church

On the evening of April 7, more than 600 men, women and children in the Diocese of Raleigh will join the Catholic Church. For each of them, the Easter Vigil will mark the end of one spiritual journey and the beginning of another. For the last year, these catechumens and candidates have learned and shared in preparation for reception into a community they have chosen, but for which, the Church believes, they have also been chosen.

Every journey is different. That was evident when, recently, NCC spoke with four soon-to-be-Catholics from Cathedral Parish in Raleigh: Sara Johnson and Daphne Flowers, young first-time mothers; Ron McNeil, a former NFL athlete; and Shannon Mante, an aspiring artist who grew up as a

Jehovah's Witness. Listening to their stories, it's easy to remember the words of a famous convert to Catholicism, St. Augustine. "Our hearts are restless," he wrote, "until they rest in Thee." Each of the four we interviewed seemed to have found in the Catholic Church that spiritual "rest" the saint was talking about. ►



**“G**rowing up in Fort Wayne, Ind., as a Jehovah’s Witness,” Shannon Mante says, “I viewed God as ... not someone with whom I could have an intimate relationship. He seemed cruel, jealous and legalistic, someone to fear.” Shannon hadn’t known his biological father, but he was rumored to be an artist. As a youngster, Shannon developed his own passionate interest in art and writing. He questioned Witness teachings, and rebelled against his parents. “By the end of high school, I just broke with them and left home,” he recalls. He tried to “provoke the establishment” by dressing unconventionally, reading “radical” books and smoking, something which could lead to his being banned from his parents’ church.

Young Shannon wasn’t happy, though. He describes himself at that time as “disintegrated,” “directionless,” a “stranger in the world.” He remembers sleeping on a cold basement floor for days on end just to avoid going home. “I thought about God a lot,” he says, “but the thoughts were bitter. I knew the Bible very well, but when my grandmother died painfully from asthma, I couldn’t see any reason for her suffering other than God’s cruelty, or his non-existence.”

Then, suddenly, came a period of what Shannon describes as “settling down.” “I met the woman who would be my wife,” he says. “She was Catholic. And I met my biological father. Then, amazingly, my parents left the Witnesses.” Shannon believes that the Lord was guiding him that year, bringing him to a place where “I could feel grounded.” Then one night, watching television in a hotel room, he saw a trailer for the movie *The Passion of the Christ*. “Suddenly,” he says, “I knew that Jesus was the Son of God. I got down on my knees and wept, and prayed that prayer, ‘God, if You’re there...’” The next morning, he says, “The sun was brighter, the air was cleaner and the people crowding the sidewalks were my brothers and sisters.”

## resources

## Who are the new Catholics?

▶▶ To read the names of all the Catechumens and Candidates being received into the Church in the Diocese of Raleigh this year, go to [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org).

▶▶ Visit [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/where/parishes](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/where/parishes) to find a parish near you.

**“I was attracted to the structure of Catholicism and the symbolism of the Mass. A lot of what we learned wasn’t brand new to me.”**



Shannon Mante

**D**aphne Flowers had a relatively happy, involved religious life growing up in the Methodist Church, “but I drifted in my teenage years.” When she met her husband-to-be, who had converted to Catholicism in his late teens, she began to read about the Catholic Church. “I was attracted to the structure of Catholicism,” she says, “and the symbolism of the Mass.” She married at St. Patrick Church in Fayetteville. When she entered the RCIA program at Cathedral, she found that her reading had been good preparation.

“A lot of what we learned wasn’t brand new to me,” she says, “but I enjoyed the focus on Mary – that was new – and exploring the Rosary. I loved learning about the Sign of the Cross, and breaking down the Nicene Creed, and being with people with similar values.”

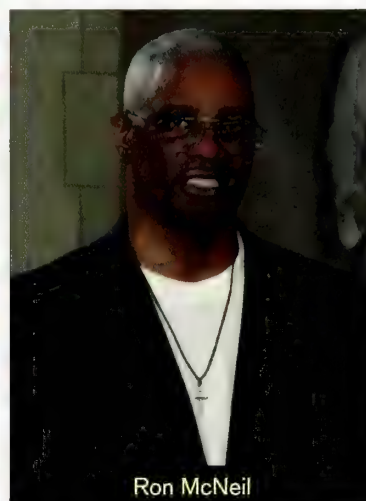


Daphne Flowers



Sara Johnson





"There was a rainbow of people worshipping together here, praying together, the way God intended. Finally I asked Him if I could be a part of this, if I could walk this walk."

Ron McNeil

**I**n RCIA, Daphne met a new friend, Sara Johnson. The two gave birth to their first children, one month apart, during the process. A program director for an RTP pharmaceutical company, Sara grew up Lutheran in Minnesota. She attended college in Memphis and says that she and her now husband came to North Carolina for the warm weather, as well as for career opportunities.

"My fiancé was Catholic, but we hadn't been very active in church," she says. "When we were engaged, though, we knew it was time to find a church in which we could be a family. One Saturday we went to Sacred Heart. I loved the look of the church, the stone and stained glass, and Fr. Jerry's energy! It was such a warm environment; people applauded the newcomers. And when we asked about getting married, the parish was so welcoming." After her wedding, Shannon joined Sacred Heart's wedding committee to assist other brides.

**R**on McNeil, nicknamed by his RCIA mates "Big Ron," because he is so tall, describes himself with a smile as a "Raleigh-ite, born at St. Agnes Hospital, grew up near Oakwood Avenue." A gifted athlete, Ron attended NC Central University, and, in 1974, was drafted as a defensive end by the Cleveland Browns of the NFL. After a year there and a year with the Philadelphia Bell of the now defunct WFL, Ron was sidelined by injuries. Today he works for ConAgra in Garner.

Although he confesses to an understanding of the "wild life" that tempts young men in professional sports, Ron had a firm religious grounding growing up as a member of Rush Metropolitan AME Zion Church in Raleigh. When he resettled in the area after his athletic career, he tried a variety of churches. His wife, Vicki, was a staunch Catholic, though. Eventually Ron started attending Mass with her at Sacred Heart. Immediately he felt

comfortable. He cites the homilies, "the boldness of the crucifix," and the mixed congregation as factors that impressed him. "There was a rainbow of people worshipping together here, praying together," he says, "the way God intended. Finally I asked Him if I could be a part of this, if I could walk this walk."

"Ron and Vicki have brought a rich presence to our community," says Sacred Heart RCIA Director Steve Gambino, "and we have come to love them both in a special way. Ron is enduring a cross right now, as he is suffering from an irregular heart rhythm. He is facing a special procedure in three weeks in which they will stop his heart in order to restart it with hopefully a normal rhythm." Ron jokes that he will soon be "born again" in more ways than one.

All four new Catholics have found a spiritual resting place in the Church. But they have no intention of standing still; they look forward to the next chapters in their spiritual journeys. Ron

**"I know it's not needed, but I feel like being in full communion with the church will give me 'permission' to get involved. And it brings my husband and me closer together."**

describes his RCIA experience as "momentous," and praises the parishioners and his RCIA brothers and sisters for their love and support. Daphne says, "I know it's not needed, but I feel like being in full communion with the Church will give me 'permission' to get involved. And it brings my husband and me closer together." Sara, too, talks about the importance of church in raising a family, and of parents' setting an example for one's children. "I was looking for a church where

I could be involved beyond just Sunday," she says, "and this was the one."

Shannon describes "a long journey of floating, of not being rooted, and finally finding my place. And finding a church that is comfortable with mystery. Because it's the unanswered questions that keep us going."



Las jornadas espirituales que llevaron a cuatro personas a unirse a la Iglesia Católica

# Corazones inquietos

**A**l atardecer del sábado 7 de abril mas de 600 hombres, mujeres y niños en la parte Este de Carolina del Norte se unirán a la Iglesia Católica. Para cada uno de ellos, la Vigilia Pascual marcará el final de una jornada espiritual y el comienzo de otra. Durante el año pasado estos catecúmenos y candidatos aprendieron y compartieron en la preparación para ser recibidos por una comunidad que ellos escogieron y para quienes según la Iglesia, ellos también fueron escogidos.

Cada jornada es diferente. Esto se hizo evidente cuando la revista NCC entrevistó a cuatro personas que pronto se harán catolicos y que pertenecen a la Parroquia de la Catedral de Raleigh. Ellos son: Sara Johnson y Daphne Flowers, dos jóvenes madres; Ron McNeil, un atleta de la NFL y Shannon Mante, una artista que creció siendo Testigo de Jehová. Al escuchar sus historias es fácil recordar las palabras de un famoso convertido al catolicismo: San Agustín. El escribió lo siguiente: "Nuestro corazón estará insatisfecho hasta que descanse en Ti." Cada una de las cuatro personas entrevistadas parece haber encontrado en la Iglesia Católica ése "descanso" espiritual del que el santo hablaba.

**Shannon Mante nos cuenta su historia: "Al crecer como Testigo de**

**Jehová en Ft. Wayne, Indiana, veía a Dios no como alguien con quien pudiera tener una relación íntima.** Parecía cruel, celoso y lleno de leyes, alguien a quien debería temer." Shannon nunca conoció a su padre biológico pero se decía que era artista. Cuando joven, Shannon desarrolló su propia pasión e interés por el arte y la escritura. Cuestionaba las enseñanzas de los Testigos y se rebeló en contra de sus padres. "Al finalizar la escuela secundaria me separé de ellos y me fui de la casa." Trató de desafiar "lo establecido" vistiéndose de manera poco convencional, leyendo libros radicales y fumando, algo que podría llevarlo a que la iglesia de sus padres le prohibieran la entrada a ella.

El joven Shannon no era feliz. Describe su situación de ese momento como "desintegrada", "sin dirección" y como "un extraño en el mundo." Recuerda haber dormido durante días en un sótano frío, solo para evitar ir a su casa. "Pensé en Dios mucho, pero mis pensamientos eran amargos. Conocía la Biblia muy bien. Al morir mi abuela de manera dolorosa por culpa del asma, no podía encontrar ninguna razón a su sufrimiento fuera de la crueldad de Dios, o de su inexistencia."

Luego, de repente, llegó un periodo que Shannon describe como de "asentamiento". "Conoci a la mujer que luego sería mi esposa. Ella era católica. También conocí a mi padre biológico. Luego, de manera sorpresiva mis padres se alejaron de los Testigos." Shannon cree que ése año Dios lo estaba guiando, llevándolo a un lugar donde pudiera echar raíces. "Luego una noche mientras veía televisión en una habitación de un hotel, vi



Shannon Mante

un corto de la película La Pasión de Cristo. De pronto supe que Jesús era el Hijo de Dios. Me arrodillé, lloré y recé la oración que dice "Dios si estás ahí... A la mañana siguiente el sol brillaba más, el aire era más limpio y la gente en los andenes eran mis hermanos y hermanas."

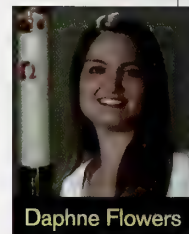
**Daphne Flowers tuvo cuando crecía una vida religiosa feliz y participativa en la Iglesia**

**Metodista "pero durante los años de la adolescencia me alejé de la iglesia."** Al conocer a quien sería su esposo, quien se había convertido al catolicismo cuando era joven adulto, comenzó a leer sobre la Iglesia Católica. "Me atrajo la estructura del catolicismo y el simbolismo de la Misa." Se casó en la Parroquia de St. Patrick en Fayetteville. Cuando entró al programa de RICA en la catedral se dio cuenta que sus lecturas habían sido una buena preparación.

"Mucho de lo que aprendimos no era del todo desconocido para mí, pero me gustó el énfasis que se le daba a María, eso fue nuevo para mí; también explorar el Rosario. Me gustó mucho aprender sobre la Señal de la Cruz, estudiar bien el Credo Niceno y estar con personas que tenían valores similares."

**En el programa RICA, Daphne conoció a una nueva amiga, Sara Johnson.**

Las dos dieron a luz su primer hijo con un mes de diferencia. Sara era directora de programa de una compañía farmacéutica en RTP. Creció en Minnesota como luterana. Asistió a una universidad en Memphis y nos cuenta que ella y su esposo vinieron a Carolina del



Daphne Flowers



Sara Johnson



Norte buscando un clima mas cálido y mejores oportunidades profesionales.

"Mi prometido era católico pero no habíamos sido muy activos en la parroquia. Al comprometernos supimos que era el momento de encontrar una parroquia en la que pudiéramos ser parte de una familia. Un sábado fuimos a Sacred Heart. Me encantó la iglesia, las piedras y los vitrales. También la energía del Padre Jerry. Era un ambiente tan calido, la gente aplaudía a las personas nuevas. Y cuando le preguntamos al Padre Jerry sobre casarnos, fue muy cálido."

**A Ron McNeil sus compañeros del programa RICA le han puesto el apodo de "big**



Ron McNeil

**Ron" por su estatura.** Nació en Raleigh en el hospital de St. Agnes y creció en Oakwood Avenue. Es un talentoso atleta. Ron asistió a NC Central University y en 1974 fue reclutado por los Cleveland Browns para jugar como defensa en la NFL. Después de jugar con ellos por un año y con los Philadelphia Bell por otro, le tocó quedarse en la banca debido a unas lesiones. Hoy en día trabaja con ConAgra en Garner.

Aunque confiesa conocer la "vida loca" que tienta a los jóvenes deportista profesionales, Ron tenía una base religiosa firme de cuando era miembro de la Iglesia Rush Metropolitan AMEZion en Raleigh. Al regresar a ésta área después de su carrera deportiva, ensayo varias iglesias. Su esposa Vicky era una católica firme y pronto comenzó a asistir con ella a la Misa en Sacred Heart. Se sintió cómodo de inmediato. Dice que entre las cosas que lo impresionaron estaban las homilias, el crucifijo y la congregación tan diversa.

"Había un arco iris de gente celebrando y rezando juntos como Dios lo deseaba. Finalmente le pregunte a Dios si yo podía hacer también este recorrido."

El director del programa RICA en Sacred Heart Cathedral, el señor Steve Gambino nos dice lo siguiente sobre ellos: "Ron y Vicky han enriquecido nuestra comunidad con su presencia y hemos aprendido a quererlos a los dos de manera muy especial. En estos momentos Ron lleva una cruz pues sufre de una arritmia cardiaca. En tres semanas tiene que enfrentar un procedimiento especial en el que le van a parar el corazón con la esperanza que vuelva a comenzar con un ritmo normal. Ron bromea diciendo que pronto "nacerá de nuevo" de diferentes formas.

Estos cuatro nuevos católicos han encontrado en la Iglesia un lugar de descanso espiritual. Sin embargo no tienen la intención de quedarse quietos. Están ansiosos por los próximos capitulos de su jornada espiritual. Ron describe su experiencia en el programa RICA como "un impulso" y expresa gratitud a los feligreses y a los hermanos y hermanas del programa por su amor y apoyo. Daphne dice lo siguiente: "Aunque sé que no es necesario, siento que al estar en comunión total con la Iglesia tengo "permiso" para involucrarme. Y también nos acerca a mi esposo y a mi más." Sara también habla sobre la importancia que tiene la Iglesia en ayudar a levantar una familia y la manera como los padres se involucran y son ejemplo para sus hijos.

Shannon lo describe como un tiempo largo de flotar, de no tener raíces para finalmente encontrar un lugar. Y encontrar una Iglesia que se siente cómoda con el misterio. Porque lo que nos mantiene son las preguntas que no hemos podido responder".



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE DECEASED PRIESTS DURING THE UPCOMING MONTHS**

**APRIL**

Rev. Chan H. Chase, 1997  
Msgr. Thomas P. Griffin, 1931  
Rev. James H. Tevlin, 1966  
Rev. Corbin W. Ketchersid, 2003  
Rev. James F. Keenan, 1988  
Rev. Joseph F. Gallagher, 1946  
Rev. Francis J. McCourt, 1982  
Rev. Howard V. Lane, 1967

Rev. Walter F. Higgins, 1981  
Msgr. Cornelius Murphy, 1954  
Rev. Guido John Carcich, 2002  
Rev. Michael W. Murphy, 1990  
Rev. Herman Bosschermuller, 1966  
Msgr. Charles Gable, 1977  
Rev. James A. Manley, 1940

**MAY**

Rev. Eugene P. Carroll, 1937  
Rev. Henri Blanc, 1972  
Rev. Joseph F. Bumann, 1989  
Rev. William T. McShea, 1973  
Msgr. Michael Francis O'Keefe, 1994  
Most Rev. William J. Hafey, 1954  
Rev. C. Ralph Monk, 1985

Rev. John J. Harper, 2003  
Rev. James J. Noonan, 1992  
Most Rev. George E. Lynch, 2003  
Rev. John A. Beshel, 1955

**JUNE**

Msgr. John Roueche, 2000  
Rev. Edward L. Gross, 1963  
Rev. Hugh Kennedy, 1968  
Rev. Philip B. Edelen, 1944

Rev. Michael A. Jordan, S.J., 1999  
Rev. Nicholas Liston, 1955  
Rev. Francis J. Gallagher, 1931

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COUNCIL

*For a Suitable Training in Holiness...*

**AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY  
Institute for Pastoral Theology**



**NOW ACCEPTING  
APPLICATIONS FOR  
FALL 2007 CLASSES IN**

**Charleston,  
South Carolina**

**Application Deadline:  
May 15, 2007**

**MASTER OF  
THEOLOGICAL  
STUDIES**

**Our Commitment**

- ◆ Theological Education – Formation of Mind
- ◆ Spiritual Formation – Conversion of Heart
- ◆ Pastoral Orientation – Prudential Wisdom

**Format**

- ◆ One Weekend a Month
- ◆ August – May
- ◆ Three-Year Cycle

**For More Information**

**Toll Free: 866-866-1100  
Email: [ipt@avemaria.edu](mailto:ipt@avemaria.edu)  
Web: [www.ipt.avemaria.edu](http://www.ipt.avemaria.edu)**





# Ya que usted lo pregunta...

Este mes con el Padre  
Jonathan A Woodhall, Ph. D.

## En el Credo Niceno decimos, “Espero .... y la vida del mundo futuro.” ¿Qué dice la Iglesia sobre esa vida?

**C**reer en “la vida del mundo futuro” es el eje de la definición de un cristiano. Los credos antiguos resumían el contenido de la fe que el nuevo cristiano aceptaba antes de ser bautizado. Estos credos a su vez se centraban en creer en una vida eterna y en aquellos escritos que finalmente conocemos hoy como el Nuevo Testamento. Las cartas de Pablo, los cuatro evangelios canónicos, las epístolas de Santiago, Pedro, Juan y Judas y al final, aquel escrito poético que se llama la Revelación o el Apocalipsis, todos ellos transmiten la tradición oral de los primeros seguidores de Jesús.

Juan el Bautista y los otros que esperaban el fin del mundo como ellos lo conocían, predicaban la vida futura y la transformación en algo más. Muchas otras personas de la época predicaban lo que hoy se llama técnicamente como pensamiento escatológico; de manera más simple es la idea de que Dios intervendría dramáticamente en el mundo creado y depondría a los gobernantes seculares que eran injustos y opresores. Dios arreglaría las cosas malas del mundo existente y crearía un nuevo orden basado en la justicia. Dios premiaría al pobre y a todos los que hubieran sufrido por culpa de los hombres pecadores que se hubieran alejado de Él.

Este nuevo orden que en griego se conoce como Parusía, se establecería con la llegada de Jesús. Aunque el punto principal de la predicación de Jesús de Nazareth estaba enfocado a la hipocresía, en especial la hipocresía de los líderes religiosos de ese entonces, Jesús también enseñó que el mundo

sería diferente si los humanos vivieran una vida de amor por Dios y por su prójimo.

La imagen de la vida escatológica se dibujó a partir de la vida terrenal de los hombres experimentados. Con esto quiero decir que el conocimiento de los hebreos y los primeros cristianos compartía un mismo entendimiento: que la vida en este mundo cambiaría y que Dios la transformaría en una vida de felicidad si se veneraba realmente al verdadero Dios y viviendo esta vida humana en paz y con justicia.

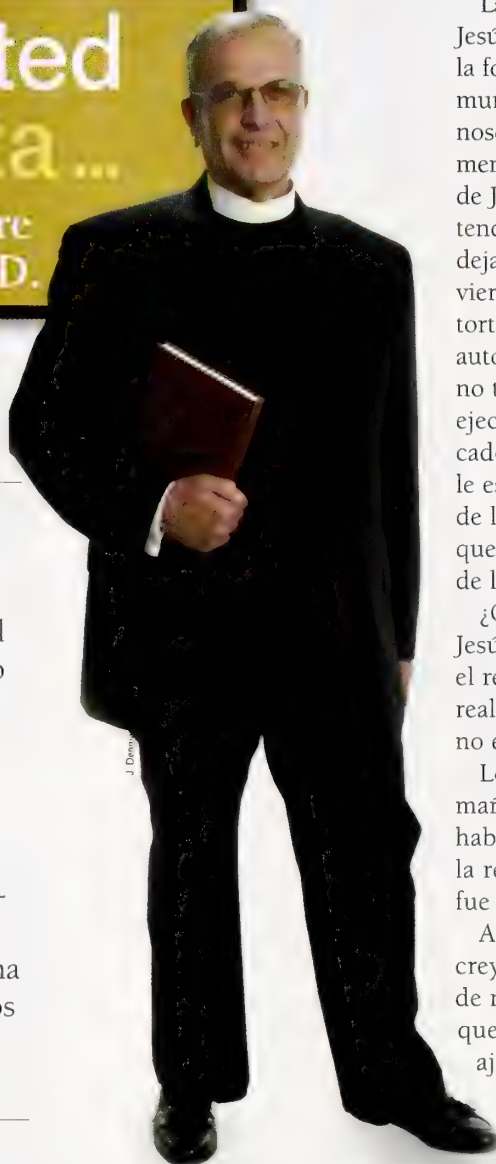
La gente se sentía atraída por Jesús, por lo que enseñaba y por la forma como vivía. Luego Jesús murió. Supongo que ninguno de nosotros puede entender totalmente lo que significó la muerte de Jesús, ni tampoco lo entendieron aquellos que lo habían dejado todo para seguirlo. Ellos vieron como lo arrestaron, fue torturado y ejecutado por la autoridad de seres humanos que no tenían un dios. No sólo fue ejecutado sino que fue crucificado con una muerte que sólo le estaba reservada a la escoria de la sociedad, a los criminales que eran vistos como amenaza de la sociedad civilizada.

¿Qué pasó con la idea que Jesús sería el que establecería el reino de Dios y que sería una realidad en este mundo, si ya no estaba vivo?

Lo inesperado ocurrió en la mañana de Pascua. El Jesús que había muerto estaba vivo. Si; la resurrección de los muertos fue real.

Al comienzo sus seguidores creyeron que Jesús aparecería de nuevo en la tierra y haría que esta nueva tierra se ajustara al plan de felicidad que según ellos, Dios tenía para nosotros los humanos. Pero Jesús no apareció y sus seguidores comenzaron a entender que Jesús había venido según las palabras de Juan, a darnos vida abundante. La vida que nos dio era diferente a la vida que esperábamos. El reino de Dios era visto entre los creyentes, según las palabras de Lucas.

Al comienzo Pablo le aconsejó a los cristianos no pensar demasiado en la clase de cuerpo o en el tipo de mundo que existiría después de la muerte para los creyentes. Lentamente la idea de la inminencia del fin del mundo fue desapareciendo y los cristianos llegaron a aceptar





a pesar de que se había comprobado la resurrección de Jesús, que la vida del mundo futuro era desconocida. Esta resurrección sería compartida por todo aquel que lo reconociera como Señor

De este entendimiento inicial de lo que sería la vida del mundo futuro, se desarrolló la doctrina que trató de encontrar una explicación a la sensación de desencanto que producía el no ver a Jesús como aquel Salvador que vino a cambiar inmediatamente la vida en este mundo y explicar además, la creencia de que Él había conquistado la muerte. El mundo futuro comenzó a entenderse como un mundo más espiritual en lugar de un mundo material en el que de todas formas Jesús aparecería nuevamente.

En los siglos posteriores, aparecieron dos pensamientos que responderían a la pregunta de qué pasa después de la muerte. Una de ellas fue que una vez que un creyente muriera, se enfrentaría inmediatamente al Creador y sería juzgado. La otra era que en el futuro, este mundo material terminaría realmente y ocurriría un juicio general para todos los humanos.

De todas las criaturas de Dios, parece que sólo los humanos tenemos curiosidad sobre el futuro. Aunque esta curiosidad es normal, puede ser mejor que prestemos atención al consejo que Juan nos hace. "Amados, a pesar de que ya somos hijos de Dios, no se ha manifestado todavía lo que seremos; pero sabemos que cuando Él aparezca en su gloria, seremos semejantes a Él, porque lo veremos tal como es." ... (1Juan 3:2)

— El Padre Jonathan A Woodhall, Ph. D. es un sacerdote de la diócesis, retirado, pero continúa involucrado colaborando con el RICA y en el Ministerio Hispano de Sacred Heart Cathedral en Raleigh.

## ¡Regocijense!

**D**urante los 50 días que dura la gran fiesta de la Pascua regocijándonos con la Gloria de Jesús, es apropiado que reflexionemos sobre la alegría y cómo la experimentan aquellos que creen en quien resucitó de la muerte, Jesucristo.

Quisiera explorar dos cosas con ustedes: 1. ¿Qué es la alegría cristiana? 2. ¿Por qué celebramos la alegría de la Pascua durante 50 días?

La alegría es un don del Espíritu Santo. En Gálatas, Pablo nos dice que de los dones espirituales, es el segundo después del amor (5:22). Viene de Dios como un don puro. Comúnmente se considera la felicidad como un sinónimo pero esto es incorrecto. La felicidad es algo que viene y se va; la alegría penetra en nuestra alma; la alegría perdura. Felicidad es cuando todo lo que deseamos se hace realidad; alegría puede existir en medio del sufrimiento o los obstáculos. La alegría viene cuando estamos en paz con Dios, con nosotros mismos y con los demás.

La alegría cristiana es un don que permanece sin importar qué esté ocurriendo en nuestras vidas. Frecuentemente la vemos en las vidas de los santos, aún en la de los mártires y en las vidas de aquellos a quienes amamos y admiramos. Nunca olvidaré la última vez que estuve en presencia de nuestro amado Papa Juan Pablo II. Fue muchos meses antes de su muerte y estaba sufriendo mucho físicamente. Sin embargo, irradiaba calma, serenidad y alegría espiritual. Él nos enseñó que aún en medio de nuestras cruces podemos sentir alegría. Su ejemplo fue contagioso. Sin duda, él inspiró a un sinnúmero de personas y les ayudó a liberarse de cualquier sentimiento de derrota o de desesperación.

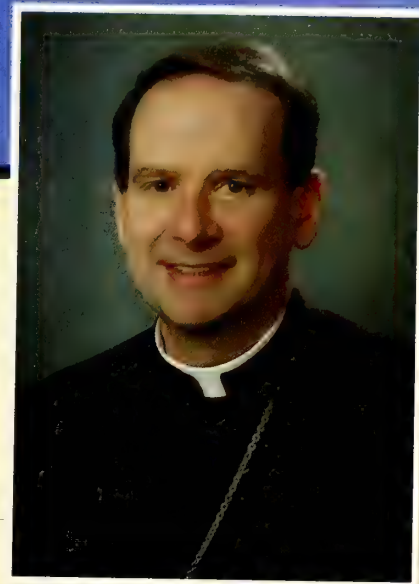
Creo que todos los cristianos

poseemos el don de la alegría pero no todos la expresamos. ¿Cómo es posible que algunas personas irradian alegría en medio de los sufrimientos, las aflicciones y los esfuerzos de la vida diaria? Creo que es porque ellos tienen una relación íntima con Dios y confían en la nueva vida que Él ofrece. Ellos han gozado de la misericordia de Dios que se hace visible en Él, y se hizo pecado por ellos y por todas las personas y redimió al mundo con Su sangre.

Cada año entramos a la gran celebración del Triduo Pascual, los tres días que culminan con la celebración del la gran Vigilia Pascual el sábado en la noche y con la Misa del domingo. Hacemos un esfuerzo por hacer de estas liturgias el punto más alto de nuestro año. En ellas celebramos lo más importante de nuestra fe: la pasión, la muerte y la resurrección de nuestro Salvador Jesucristo.

Esta celebración y sus frutos son de tal importancia, que la Iglesia en su sabiduría nos ofrece 50 días para celebrar y sentir la alegría, la cual es nuestra por medio del Misterio Pascual. Espero que con la gracia de Dios, ustedes gocen y celebren la alegría en este Triduo Pascual y durante esta época de Pascua, permitiendo que nuestro Redentor los abrace con su amor infinito.

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh





# He said She said what do they do?

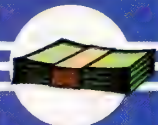
## romance



### What's that in the fridge?

►► Wouldn't it be wonderful if one day you opened the refrigerator to find a little bouquet of flowers with your name on it? Or a special card taped to the steering wheel of the car? Your spouse would like that, too!

## money



### Life has no guarantees

►► True, but we are supposed to plan prudently. Make sure your insurance coverage is adequate to replace your home at its full value if some catastrophe occurs. Keep a list of all your personal possessions — even better with photos — in a location away from home, like a safe deposit box.

**C**huck and Elaine are newlyweds. When they go out for the evening, Elaine lays out clothes for Chuck to wear. This is causing some resentment on Chuck's part.

## He doesn't know how to dress right without my help

### she says

**Elaine says:** I love Chuck, but let's face it, he's no fashion model. If I didn't lay out his clothes for him sometimes, he can look like a geek. For example, when we went to a friend's wedding last month, Chuck would have worn his jeans, white socks and sneakers. To a wedding! He can look stunning when he dresses up — I don't see why he can't just take some advice.

## She's not my mother — I can pick my own clothes

### he says

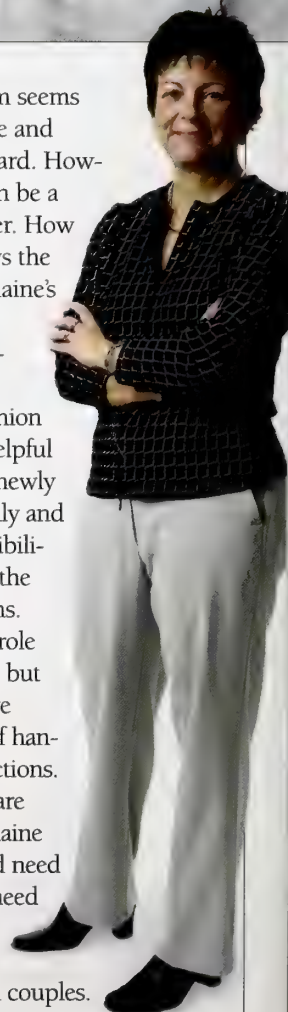
**Chuck says:** It's not fashion advice; it's more like the fashion police. Elaine neglected to mention that the wedding was an outdoor barbeque — yes, some of the guests were dressed up, but there were certainly a number of them in jeans. When Elaine lays clothes out on the bed for me to wear, it makes me feel as if I'm a 5-year-old. Elaine is my wife — not my mother.

**When Elaine lays clothes out on the bed for me to wear, it makes me feel as if I'm a 5-year-old.**

### expert says

This problem seems pretty simple and straightforward. However, early in a marriage this can be a red flag for possible trouble later. How we handle these early issues lays the groundwork for Chuck's and Elaine's future marital relationship.

I am a big believer in communication. Chuck gives us a good idea of how he perceives the fashion advice. He does not view it as helpful or necessary. It is important for newly married couples to discuss openly and honestly their roles and responsibilities. I wonder if Elaine takes on the mothering role in other situations. Sometimes this seems a natural role for the woman in a relationship, but it can be overwhelming when we mother those who are capable of handling their own decisions and actions. And in a few years, when there are children to raise, it is possible Elaine will grow to resent her perceived need to 'mother' Chuck. She and he need to be partners to each other, not parents. This is part of the beauty of God's plan for married couples.





## communication



## Take a hike

►► Sometimes it's hard to find time to communicate — especially if you want to talk about the kids and they're right there underfoot! If they are old enough to stay home alone for a few minutes, take a walk together. The quiet and lack of distraction leads to better conversation. Can't leave the kids? Try sitting on the front porch instead.

## time



## It's about time!

►► Fool the brain to fuel the relationship. Discover in your daily routine what doesn't get canceled, postponed or delayed. Maybe it is taking medicine or watching the evening news. Re-label it and enter it on your calendar, i.e. "Take relationship medicine for us", or "Watch my sweetheart across the table."

Occasionally, we all need empathy and support from our partners, but this support should be clearly requested or offered — and not expected — by either partner.

The roles in a new marriage need to be mutually acceptable and beneficial. Communication is critical. It is often easy to let these little aggravations go and avoid handling them. After all, it's only 'suggesting' how one should look or dress. Chuck may think, "I'm making a mountain out of a molehill." Resist this temptation to minimize the feelings and the issue. I don't think you can over-communicate in a marriage. What we do know is that we can under-communicate. That happens all the time — with negative results.

It is important to set clear expectations in relationships. Using the speaker/listener technique is often a helpful way to communicate these expectations. First, set a time aside to discuss issues privately and regularly. Listen to your partner. Then repeat back what you heard. Ask for confirmation from your partner regarding the issue at hand: Is what I understood what you really said or meant? Then respond: This is how this issue makes me feel.

So would it have been so awful if Chuck were not the fashion model at the wedding? Probably not. Would Chuck be willing to dress so Elaine finds him more attractive? I bet he would! Had they talked first, a compromise could have been reached. They could learn from each other what really matters in their relationship — and it's not clothes.

Please remember that if you and your spouse find yourselves in a situation where you are unable to resolve your marital issues with these techniques, professional counseling help is recommended. Your local Catholic Charities agency can help.

— Deb McCormack

## You decided what?! how we allow our children to grow up



Our children are not extensions of us; they are unique individuals.

**W**e pour our hearts into our children, hoping that our parenting decisions are for the best. Before we know it, they start making choices of their own and we have to start pulling back. "Not this first Communion dress. It feels itchy." (But it's just what I always pictured.) "This year, I'm putting my hair in a pony tail for picture day." (But we won't be able to tell how long and pretty it is!) "Soccer practice overlaps with football, so I'm giving up soccer." (I had him pegged for a soccer scholarship.) "This time we broke up for good." (I was sure she would be our daughter-in-law.) "I'm taking early retirement." (What? I just retired myself last year!)

**Our children are not extensions of us;** they are unique individuals. Whether it is feeling irrational shame for a child's inexcusable behavior, intense pride for another's accomplishments or the desire to over-control, being a parent can be challenging at times. How do we detach from our children's behaviors?

### When do we know it's time to let go?

#### Your children are God's children!

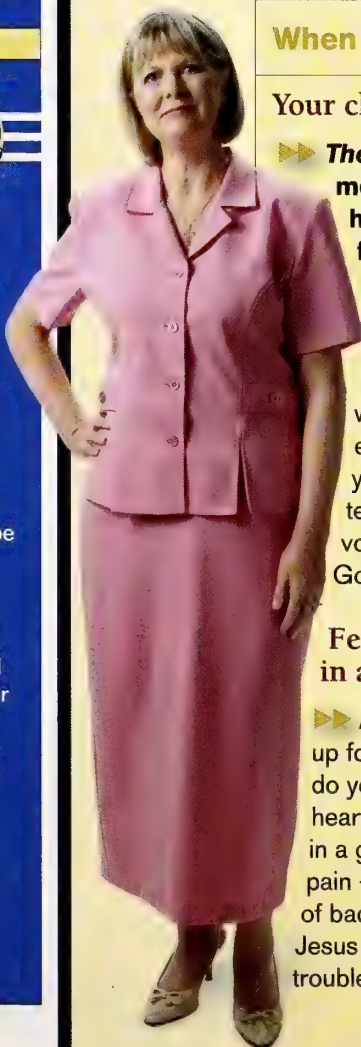
►► **The Baltimore Catechism** stated, "God made me to know him, to love him, and to serve him in this world, and to be happy with him forever in heaven." As parents, we cannot

pull our children down paths of our choosing, assuming we know God's plans for them.

"Children ... contribute to the growth in holiness of their parents." (CCC #2227) One reason is because we must trust in God; we just aren't sure how everything is going to turn out! We pray, "If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts." We teach our children to pray and to listen for God's voice. Then we must let them learn how respond to God in their daily lives under our guidance.

#### Feeling a bit over-invested in a child's behavior?

►► **Ask yourself "why?"** Are you trying to make up for experiences that you didn't have as a child? Or do you want to make sure your children don't feel the heartbreaks that you did? Just as we can't raise children in a germ-free world, we can't free them from emotional pain — and shouldn't help them avoid the consequences of bad decisions. We can model how to be followers of Jesus even when we are faced with life experiences that trouble us. — Dr. Cathleen McGreal







**“You make me  
want to shout!”**  
moving from somber to celebration

**W**edding celebrations can

sure be a blast! I have been to hundreds as

a priest and have enjoyed them all. During one, I recall the bride and groom holding hands and jumping off the floor together to the song, *You Make Me Want To Shout!* I remember how popular the song was during my college days. It was played at most parties and people would jump and shout so much that the floor and house would shake. And at this wedding, the song captured the joy of a bride and groom who were in love.

I think most people would acknowledge that there are some things in life that really do make us want to shout for joy, and that love is probably the greatest of

all. The original song written by the Isley Brothers in 1959 was trying to express the joy of romantic love – of

loving and being loved by another. They wrote it on a whim, but later related how it came from their own



experiences in **church!** Yes, believe it or not, church was the inspiration for *You Make Me Want To Shout!* And why not? There is no greater lover than God! When a person comes to glimpse a little bit of that love, one can certainly want to shout, dance or express that inner joy in countless ways. Scripture is filled with examples.

King David, when he found the Ark of the Covenant and was bringing it into Jerusalem, "came dancing before the Lord with abandon, as he and all the Israelites were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts of joy and to the sound of the horn." (2 Sam 6:14-15) When Mary, the new Ark of the Covenant, came to Elizabeth, the baby in Elizabeth's womb "leaped for joy." (Lk 1:44)

People also rejoiced and danced when God delivered them from evil. When the waters covered pharaoh's army at the Sea of Reeds in Exodus, the "prophetess Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand, while all the women went out after her with tambourines, dancing; and she led them in the refrain: 'Sing to the Lord, for he is gloriously triumphant; horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.'" (Ex 15:20-21)

When God healed a crippled man through Peter's and John's intercession in the Temple area, "He leaped up, stood, walked around, and went into the temple with them, walking and jumping and praising God." (Acts 3:8) Others joined in the chorus.

There are times when loud and expressive praise of God flows like a river through a person. It cannot be helped and should not be stopped. The apostles experienced this on Pentecost Sunday. When

the Holy Spirit filled them, they began praising God so loudly that all the visitors to Jerusalem heard them in their own native tongues. People thought them to be drunk! And they were – drunk with the wine of the Holy Spirit! Many heard the good news, believed and were baptized.

The joy and praise of God's people continues to flow through

**There are times when loud and expressive praise of God flows like a river through a person.**

the centuries to this very day. The source of this river of grace is the heart of Jesus Christ, and it continues to well up through the church in various expressions of joy, praise and thanksgiving to the Father. How wonderful it is when we open our hearts to it and allow it to flow through us! It is a true meeting of the Holy Spirit.

## Spiritual Exercise:

# 5 ways to find joy

**1** Take some time to go through the Psalms, the Gospels or Letters in the New Testament (I would especially recommend Acts of the Apostles) and see how often you come across passages that express joy, praise and thanks to God. After reading these sections, meditate on the blessings in your life and speak out your praise of God. Pray: *Holy Spirit of God's love; Holy Spirit flowing from the heart of Jesus Christ, help me to offer praise to God. Loosen my lips that my mouth may speak your praises!*

**2** Another beautiful way to express gratitude to God is to be generous! As you have received in abundance, give in abundance. I know of a person who was healed of cancer. In gratitude, she gave a large sum of money to help spread the Gospel. I know of another who was very grateful for the education he received



## resource

**Looking for some spiritual music you can sing along with?**

• **Brian Flynn** has composed some incredible songs about our faith. Go to [www.catholiclicsound.com](http://www.catholiclicsound.com) to listen and download.

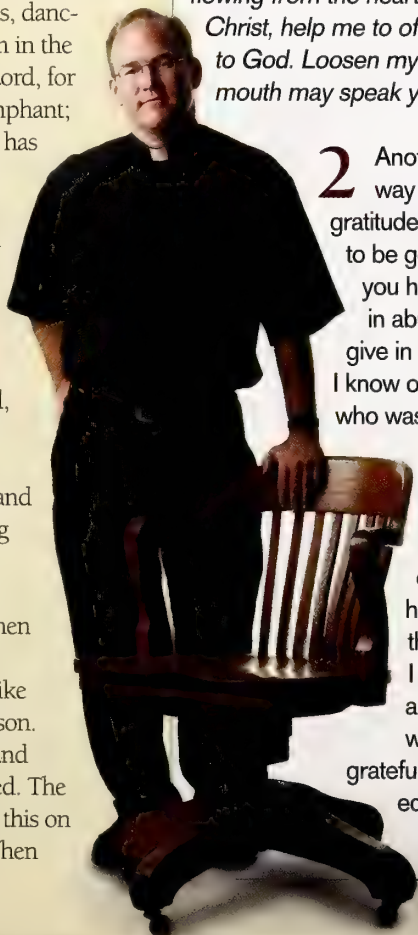
• **Denis Bach**, has a Web page up at [www.WorshipJesus.us](http://www.WorshipJesus.us). There are some free mp3 files you can download. They will lift you up and help you express the gratitude and joy we have in Christ.

through Catholic schools, so he helped finance the building of a computer lab for his local Catholic elementary school. Perhaps you may have heard of Danny Thomas – a TV star during the 1950s and '60s. At one point, he had only \$7 in his pocket and was in despair. He did not know whether to continue his struggles in show business or not. So one day, he knelt down in a Detroit church and asked St. Jude for help. Danny had heard that St. Jude was the patron saint of hopeless causes and he figured he definitely qualified for that. Later, when he became very successful, he gave thanks to God by starting St. Jude Children's Hospital in Memphis. It has helped countless children who might not otherwise get medical care. A generous heart is a grateful heart.

**3** Listen to Christian music and if you can, sing along to it. I know some folks who turn up the volume while driving so they do not have to hear themselves. There are many fantastic songs out there by Christian and Catholic artists.

**4** Go to a church prayer meeting. There are many prayer groups around that foster more expressive praise of God.

**5** Some may have trouble with the emotional aspects of showing gratitude. Don't be alarmed. The bottom-line best way to express gratitude to Jesus is to live like him. In doing so, you will be making heaven itself "shout" for joy. – Father Bill Ashbaugh





## An invitation to Catholic doctors in North Carolina

►► In January 2006, aware of the growing Catholic population of our state, the National Federation of Catholic Physician Guilds (formed in 1932 and now known as the Catholic Medical Association) formally recognized the Chartered Guild of the CMA in North Carolina. The state guild is named after Saint Gianna Beretta Molla, a physician who, during her fourth pregnancy, was diagnosed with a large ovarian cyst. Her surgeon recommended an abortion to save Gianna's life, but she refused and died a week after childbirth, caring more for doing right by her unborn child than for her own life. Today, that child is a pro-life physician herself.

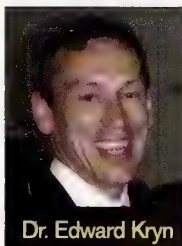
The guild has several purposes:

- To uphold the principles of Catholic faith and morality as related to the science and practice of medicine.
- To cooperate in leading the Christian community, especially with the particular medical expertise and experience of the Catholic physician to understand, develop, and apply Christ's principles of faith and morality to modern medical science and practice.
- To lead the Christian community in the work of communicating Catholic medical ethics to the medical profession and the community-at-large.
- To enable Catholic physicians to know one another better and to work together with deeper mutual support and understanding.

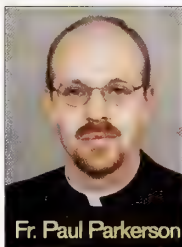
According to Dr. Edward Kryn of Clayton, president of the Guild, "Our national office does not publicize the names of members in the state. Our only way to get to know one another is through attendance at national meetings or forming state/local organizations. When members register in-state we come to an appreciation of the magnitude of our potential influence in the state, especially when it comes to addressing medical/moral concerns that face our state and our nation."

Each guild has a moderator or chaplain who functions as the spiritual father and director for his flock of physicians. Bishop Burbidge has appointed Father Paul Parkerson to this position; Fr. Parkerson was spiritual director of the guild prior to its official recognition.

"In speaking with both bishops in the state," Dr. Kryn said, "we realize that we doctors have a duty as well as a responsibility to ensure that Catholics and all people of goodwill understand that what the church teaches is good spiritually and good for society as a whole. As Pope John Paul II enunciated so well in his encyclical



Dr. Edward Kryn



Fr. Paul Parkerson

*Fides et Ratio*, faith and reason go hand and hand. Acknowledging living proof of this encyclical, we can now see how prophetic Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae* was. Population shifts created by aborting more than 47 million Americans has created an aging population, with a crisis in Social Security. Divorce amongst Catholics equals that in the general population, even though we have scientific evidence that Natural Family Planning couples experience virtually no divorce. Every week new scientific research confirms that the teachings of the Church make good medicine.

"Our Catholic Medical Association hopes that our access to information pertaining to medical moral issues will enable us to be a reference source to assist in the formation of Catholics in the state. We not only have our national office from which to draw but also our affiliation with international Catholic doctor organizations similar to our own, and our representatives at the Vatican."

Bishop Burbidge, who came to Raleigh from an archdiocese with a large Catholic Guild, is eager to meet the doctors in the Raleigh diocese, and would like to see as many doctors as possible attend the "White Mass," the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass dedicated to doctors, in the fall: Oct. 20 at 10 a.m. at a church to be announced.

"We want to ensure that interested Catholic doctors in the diocese are invited," Dr. Kryn said. "We hope they will write us at: Chartered Guild of the Catholic Medical Association in North Carolina, C/O Dr. Edward Kryn, President, 3520 Queen Ann Dr., Clayton, NC 27527."



On Saturday, March 10, Bishop Burbidge celebrated Mass at St. Peter in Greenville to mark the 60th anniversary of St. Peter School. This photo was taken in January, when the Bishop met with children at the school.

## A historic first: Bishop addresses Campbell University students

►► On Feb. 27, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge addressed a convocation of some 800 freshmen at Campbell University in Buies Creek. This was the first



Campbell University Campus Minister Faithe Beam with Bishop Burbidge.

time in diocesan history that a Catholic bishop had spoken on the campus of this Baptist university. Bishop Burbidge had been invited to the school last August by Campbell's then campus minister Terry-Michael Newell.

An opening song was followed by Scripture read by a Catholic student, and the praying of the Our Father and the Hail Mary. Bishop Burbidge, after explaining the role of a bishop in the Catholic Church, (including a bishop's duty to foster unity both among Catholics and among all Christians) spoke on the right relationship of a Christian to self, to God and to others.

Campbell University began in 1887 as Buies Creek Academy and became successively a community college, a college and a university with graduate programs in ministry, law, pharmacy, business administration and education. Today there are more than 4,000 students on the Buies Creek campus. Associate Professor Haydn Tiago Jones is a Catholic who teaches Spanish at Campbell and also meets regularly with Catholic students and those interested in Catholicism. "We have 10 or so who meet," he said, "but there are 100-150 students here who identify themselves as Catholic."

Current campus minister Faithe Beam expressed the gratitude of the university for the bishop's visit. "I was delighted," Bishop Burbidge said, "to have the opportunity to be part of this historic occasion. I hope this will be the first of many chances to meet with our brothers and sisters here."



## Catholic Community of Bertie County celebrates

► Joy and celebration were the hallmarks of a recent festival held by the Catholic Community of Bertie County in Windsor. Jan. 21 was the Feast of Señor Santo Niño, a marking the anniversary of the Evangelization of the Philippines, where the holiday is the culmination of a week of prayer and fasting. Since the majority of the Bertie County Catholics are Filipino, Father Michael Langell, pastor, incorporated elements of this cultural feast into the Sunday Mass.

In addition to special prayers, the presentation of the gifts and the recessional featured liturgical dances by the young women of the parish. The dancers were dressed in traditional malongs and sarongs, which were decorated in colorful batik designs. The processions focused on the presentation of small statues of the infant Jesus, Señor Santo Niño, which many families brought with them when they immigrated to the United States.

Following the Mass, the congregation gathered at the parish house for a day of feasting, dancing and fellowship in the Philippine family tradition. Father Mike is a Glenmary missionary who came to Bertie County in 2004 to minister to the area Catholics in this rural corner of northeastern North Carolina. Through his ministry, the congregation has grown to include a culturally diverse community of approximately 70 Catholics. The Spanish-speaking parishioners are also served by Hispanic Minister José Mendoza. To organize the work of the laity, the congregation elected its first Parish Pastoral Council in May 2006.



Members of the Catholic Community of Bertie County gather at the parish house to celebrate an important Catholic feast day in the Philippines.



## Boy Scout Troop 316 receives Catholic Awards

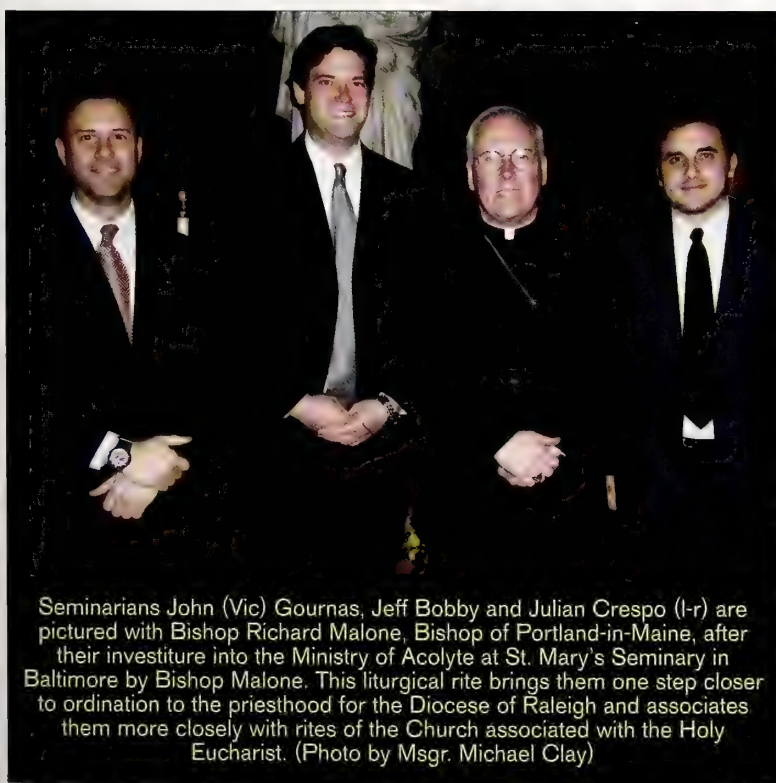
► Scoutmaster Rick Bunnell (l) received, on behalf of the troop, the Pope Paul VI National Unit Award presented by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting for promoting the Scouting program and service to the Catholic community. Frank Jackson (r), chairman, Diocese of Raleigh Catholic Committee on Scouting, received the Bronze Pelican award, recognizing his outstanding service to the spiritual development of Catholic youth through the Scouting apostolate in the Diocese of Raleigh. The awards were presented to each at St Andrew's Catholic Church during the Scout Sunday celebration on Feb. 4.

## Bishop Meets Delegation From Chapel Hill and Mexico

► On Feb. 9, Bishop Burbidge welcomed a



delegation from the church of Santa Cruz de Juventino Rosas in Guanajuato, Mexico. Santa Cruz is the sister parish of St. Thomas More in Chapel Hill, and parishioners from St. Thomas More accompanied the delegation. The group was making a 10-day visit to Chapel Hill, focusing on enhancing relationships between Latino and non-Latino parishioners at St. Thomas, while helping to strengthen Latino lay ministries and lay leaders here. The delegation included the pastor of Santa Cruz, Padre Gerardo, and a group of lay persons. It was their second visit, following two visits to Mexico from St. Thomas More representatives. One of those representatives, Kenneth Reeb, said St. Thomas More had been "delighted by the impact this spiritual relationship has made on both parishes. To our knowledge, it is a unique arrangement, which builds upon a natural 'bridge' of a substantial group of immigrants from Juventino Rosas who now live in the Chapel Hill area."



Seminarians John (Vic) Gournas, Jeff Bobby and Julian Crespo (l-r) are pictured with Bishop Richard Malone, Bishop of Portland-in-Maine, after their investiture into the Ministry of Acolyte at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore by Bishop Malone. This liturgical rite brings them one step closer to ordination to the priesthood for the Diocese of Raleigh and associates them more closely with rites of the Church associated with the Holy Eucharist. (Photo by Msgr. Michael Clay)





## New Catholic school planned in Southern Pines

►► On a blustery Sunday afternoon in February, ground was broken for what will be the new Pope John Paul II regional Catholic school in Southern Pines. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, Msgr. Jeffrey A. Ingham, pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Church, Knights of Columbus and members of the parish community broke ground in the official ceremony.

The new facility will replace the current one, which was built in 1955. It closed in 1971 and was reopened in 2002 under its former name of St. Anthony of Padua. The name was changed in 2005 in memory of Pope John Paul II. In the four years since the school reopened, enrollment has grown from 35 students to 101 participating in its pre-K through grade 5 curricula. Next year, the school will add a sixth grade, followed by a seventh in 2009 and an eighth grade in 2010. Construction plans call for the new facility to be ready for the 2008 school year.



## Mass comes to New Hanover County Jail

►► For what may have been the first time in history, a Catholic Mass recently was celebrated in the New Hanover County Jail. And it was a non-Catholic who pushed to make it happen.

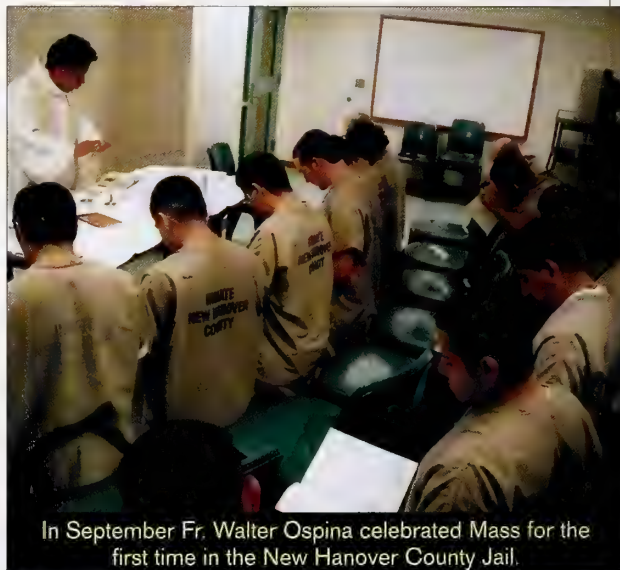
Although Wilmington has been graced with full-time Catholic priests since 1845, there are no records to indicate a Mass for prisoners in the county jail until Sept. 2, 2006, when Fr. Walter Ospina, pastor of St. Therese in Wrightsville Beach, celebrated the Eucharist in a training room down the hall from the chaplain's office. One month later, Fr. Marcus Leon, parochial vicar of St. Mark in Wilmington, again brought reconciliation and Mass to the jail's inmates.

Despite the longtime Catholic presence in the county, Catholic ministry at the jail began only in 2001, when a newly appointed lay minister from St. Mark was greeted warmly at the door. "Where have you Catholics been?" the administrators asked. "We've been waiting for you!" Since then, lay prison ministry at the jail has been alive and well. But crowded cell blocks made it difficult for priests even to hear confessions with any

degree of confidentiality.

The opening of a new facility in 2004 solved the space problem and Sheriff Sidney Causey has strongly supported spiritual and social rehabilitation efforts, including lay ministry, life skills programs, GED and English as a Second Language classes, domestic violence education and religious services. It was a non-Catholic sheriff's deputy who, on hearing about plans to introduce services for various denominations, urged the lay minister from St. Mark to "Go for it!" The reason: his Catholic girlfriend. Whenever she would attend Mass at St. Mark or nearby St. Stanislaus in Castle Hayne, he would accompany her. Today, Frs. Ospina and Leon share a bi-monthly Mass schedule at the jail.

— Ernie Abrahamson



In September Fr. Walter Ospina celebrated Mass for the first time in the New Hanover County Jail.

## Bishop affirms the vocation of marriage

►► On May 6, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Raleigh, Bishop Burbidge will celebrate a Mass for couples celebrating their 25th, 50th and 50+ wedding anniversaries. In a letter to pastors, parochial vicars and pastoral administrators, the bishop wrote, "As we continue to increase our awareness of promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life, it is also important that we promote the vocation of marriage. One way to do this is by honoring those who are celebrating significant anniversaries as married couples. The Mass will take place at 2 p.m.

With the same goal of affirming the married vocation, Bishop Burbidge has announced his support of North Carolina "defense of marriage" legislation, which would amend the state constitution to provide that marriage is the union of one man and one woman at one time, and that this is the only

marriage recognized as valid in this state.

In 2004, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops began the National Pastoral Initiative for Marriage, a multi-year program for calling attention to the meaning and value of married life for the Church and for society. More recently, the bishops are developing a series of TV and radio public service announcements on marriage, and constructing a new website that will offer marriage-related information and resources. At the same time, the Diocese of Raleigh is enhancing the marriage page on its own site, which will include a link to the national site when it launches in June.





# *A strong shoulder in a difficult time.*

Dear Supreme Knight:

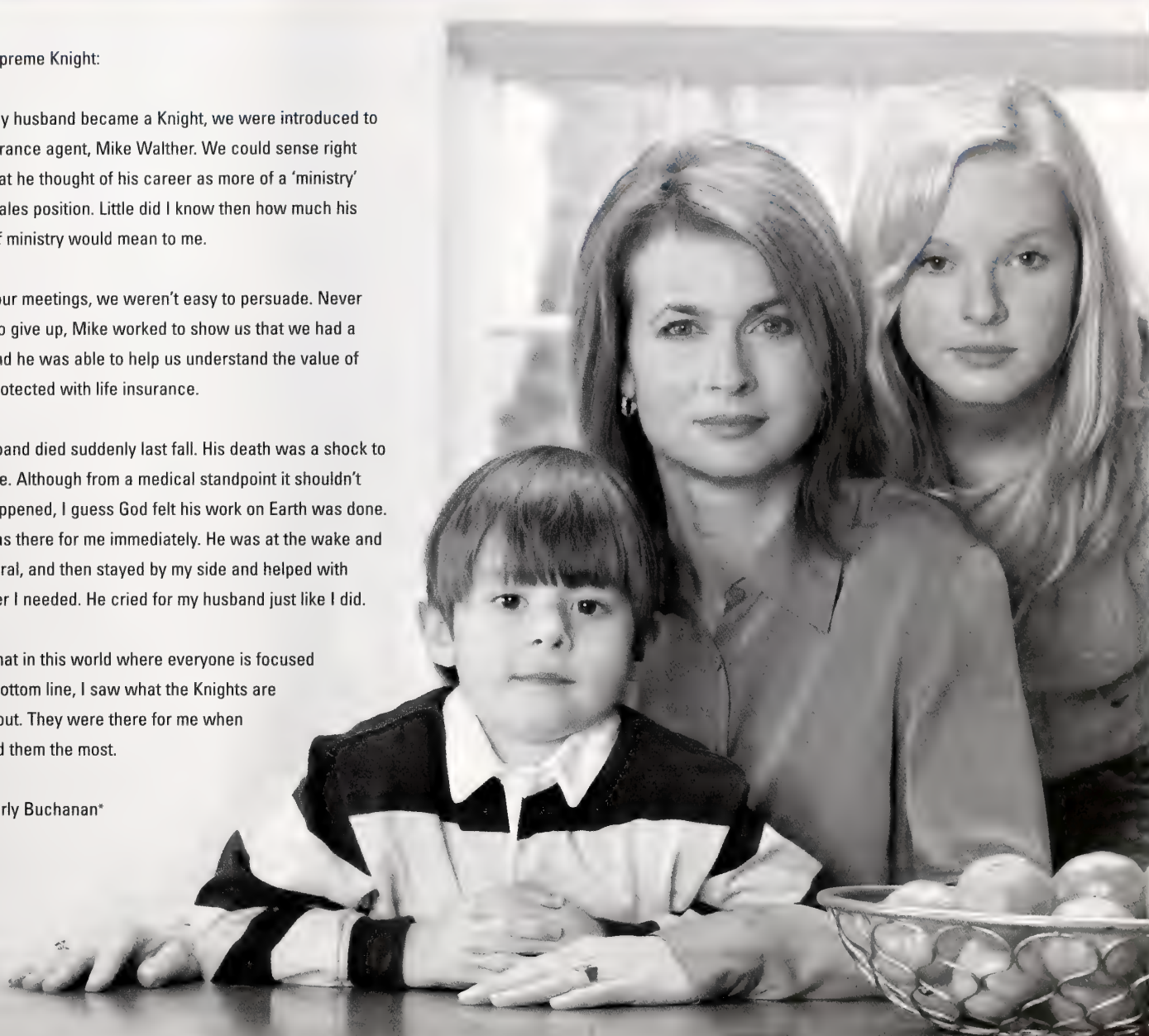
When my husband became a Knight, we were introduced to our insurance agent, Mike Walther. We could sense right away that he thought of his career as more of a 'ministry' than a sales position. Little did I know then how much his sense of ministry would mean to me.

During our meetings, we weren't easy to persuade. Never willing to give up, Mike worked to show us that we had a need, and he was able to help us understand the value of being protected with life insurance.

My husband died suddenly last fall. His death was a shock to everyone. Although from a medical standpoint it shouldn't have happened, I guess God felt his work on Earth was done. Mike was there for me immediately. He was at the wake and the funeral, and then stayed by my side and helped with whatever I needed. He cried for my husband just like I did.

I think that in this world where everyone is focused on the bottom line, I saw what the Knights are truly about. They were there for me when I needed them the most.

— Beverly Buchanan\*



\*Based on an actual letter. Names have been altered to preserve anonymity.

To find your local Knights of Columbus agent, select "Find an Agent" at [KofC.org](http://KofC.org), or call 1-800-345-5632.

Knights of Columbus Insurance  
A++ (Superior) A.M. Best;  
AAA (Extremely Strong) Standard & Poor's;  
IMSA Certified.



Knights of Columbus  
**INSURANCE**  
*Making a difference for life.*



**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour**, May 4, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral, is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. While the VHH's are open to everyone, it will certainly be a unique opportunity for men and women discerning a church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment. **Since the First Friday of April is Good Friday, there will be no VHH in April.**

**Catholic biblical scholar** and author Stephen J. Binz will present on the Threshold Bible Study, Wednesday, April 18, at St. Michael's Pastoral Center, Cary. Presentation is from 7 - 9 p.m. Threshold Bible Study is a new formation process for adult Catholics. It combines the ancient art of *lectio divina* with contemporary Bible study. Click on [www.ThresholdBibleStudy.com](http://www.ThresholdBibleStudy.com) to see descriptions of each book, endorsements by pastoral leaders, and advice on how to bring Bible study to your whole community. For more information, contact Amy Daniels at 919.468.6108.

**Search 147**, April 13-15, Short Journey Center, Smithfield, is a weekend-long retreat for 11th- and 12th-grade students in the diocese. This peer-led retreat features witness talks, prayers, reconciliation and liturgy and lots of powerful surprises. To register, contact your youth minister or go to: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/youth\\_ministry/programs/search\\_packet.pdf](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/youth_ministry/programs/search_packet.pdf)

**Catholic Family Expo** is coming to Charlotte, April 13 - 15. The conference location will be held on the beautiful campus of Belmont Abbey College. This year's theme will be "Formation for Vocations." Receive tools that will strengthen or help you obtain a better understanding of your vocation for being a father, mother, home-school or Catholic school teacher, student, or as someone in religious life. Or just come to recharge your spiritual batteries! There will be shopping and information, from Catholic books and gifts, to academic curriculum materials. For more info, visit [www.CatholicFamilyExpo.org](http://www.CatholicFamilyExpo.org)

**St. Thomas More Parish** in Chapel Hill will be celebrating **Divine Mercy Sunday** on Saturday, April 14 from 4 - 6 p.m. Father Ken Parker will be officiating.

## Encuentro Diocesano 2007 de Pastoral Juvenil Diocesan Encuentro 2007 for Hispanic Youth and Young Adults

- **Tema / Theme :** Ven y Sigueme" / "Come and Follow Me
- **Fecha / Date :** April 14, 2007, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- **Lugar / Place :** Cardinal Gibbons HS, Raleigh
- **Actividades en general / General activities:**  
Oración de apertura, presentación de un conferencista, competencias (diseño del Logo Diocesano para la Pastoral Juvenil que se usará en las camisetas, canciones, dramatizaciones), dinámicas, Adoración del Santísimo Sacramento y para finalizar, la Santa Misa.  
Opening prayer service, presentations, the main speaker, competitions (Diocesan Logo design for Pastoral Juvenil T-shirt, songs and drama sketch), dynamics, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and closing Mass.

## April Readings

### Sunday, April 1

*Palm Sunday*

Is 50:4-7

Ps 22:8-9,17-18,19-20,23-24 (2a)

Phil 2:6-11

Lk 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49

### Thursday, April 5

*Holy Thursday*

Is 61:1-3a,6a,8b-9

Ps 89:21-

22,25,27

Rv 1:5-8

Lk 4:16-21

### Friday, April 6

*Good Friday*

Is 52:13-53:12

Ps 31:2,6,12-13,15-16,17,25

Heb 4:14-

16,5:7-9

Jn 18:1-19:42

### Saturday, April 7

*Holy Saturday,*

*The Easter Vigil*

Gen 1:1-2:2 or

1:1,26-31a

Ps 104:1-2a,5-

6, 10, 12-14,

24, 35c or

Ps 33:4-7,12-

13, 20, 22

Gen 22:1-18 or

22:1-2,9a,10-

13,15-18

Ps 16:5,8-11

Exod 14:15-

15:1

(Ps) Exod 15:1-

6,17-18

Isa 54:5-14

Ps 30:2,4-6,11-

12a,13b

Isa 55:1-11

(Ps) Isa 12:2-

3,4bcd,5-6

Bar 3:9-15,32-

4:4

Ps 19:8-11

Ezek 36:16-

17a,18-28

Pss 42:3,5bcd;

43:3-4

**Finding Spiritual Balance Between Personal Life and Pastoral Life**, April 17, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. RELM (Raleigh Ecclesial Lay Ministers) welcomes Kathleen Brown, D.Min. and David Orr for its annual spring Day of Reflection. They will assist participants in their search for real balance in their lives as lay ministers. Place: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 700 Carnegie St., Fayetteville, NC 28311. For more information, contact Bea Callery at [bea.callery@raldioc.org](mailto:bea.callery@raldioc.org) or 919.821.9715

**Family Honor** will be presenting "Changes and Challenges", a very special family program for sixth-graders and their parents April 20 and 27, at St. Patrick's in Fayetteville. The purpose of "Changes and Challenges" is to explore God's special gift of human fertility, sexuality, the virtue of chastity, and the beauty and wonder of growing up. This program is grounded in Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body and is presented in an age-appropriate way. There are two parts to the program: Session 1 is for parents only; Session 2 is for parents with their sixth-grade son or daughter. For questions about Family Honor or the program, please call Lisa Roess at 919.362.0771. Parish Contact: Beth O'Leary 910.323.2410

**Priesthood Discernment Group**, April 21, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., at the Doggett Center, Raleigh. This group provides a comfortable and safe place to discuss your thoughts and feelings about a possible call to the priesthood. The group discusses issues central to the call within the context of prayer and mutual support. If you think this group may be for you, please call Fr. Alex at 919.833.9668 or e-mail him at [jagonza3@ncsu.edu](mailto:jagonza3@ncsu.edu).

Get a jump start on spring! Clean out your closets, attics and basements and prepare to make money! **St. Andrew the Apostle** Catholic Church Activity Committee will host a **Yard Sale** on Saturday, April 21, 8 a.m.



- 12 p.m. at 3008 Old Raleigh Rd. in Apex. Rent a space for \$10 to sell your treasures! Call Susan Ferraro at 919.239.2713 to reserve your table. The Helping Hand Mission will be available at the end of the day to accept donations of items you have not sold and do not want to bring home.

**Youth Ministry Certificate Program**, April 21-22, St. Francis of Assisi Church in Raleigh. Pastoral Care of Adolescents is the topic for this weekend of this two-year certificate program. Participants may attend one, several or all eight weekend courses. To register, contact your youth minister or go to: [http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/youth\\_ministry/programs/ym\\_certificate\\_program.pdf](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/youth_ministry/programs/ym_certificate_program.pdf)

**Jamboree**, Saturday, April 28, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Short Journey Center, Smithfield. This is a day-long rally for all middle school youth (6th-8th grade) of the diocese. Keynote speaker, activity stations on faith and fun, games and an outdoor Mass with Bishop Burbidge highlight this event. To register, contact your youth minister or go to: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/youth\\_ministry/programs/jamboree.pdf](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/youth_ministry/programs/jamboree.pdf)

**A Taste of Italy**. Saturday, April 28, 7 - 10 p.m. in the Olive Tree building and courtyard of Immaculate Conception Church, 810 W. Chapel Hill St. Durham, NC. The adult choirs of Immaculate Conception are hosting an evening featuring a wine tasting, raffle, a wide variety of Italian hors d'oeuvres and entertainment. Proceeds will benefit the choir's upcoming pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi. Wine expert Craig Heffley of Wine Authorities, soon to open in Durham, will be hosting the wine tasting. Each entry ticket allows for a tasting of four wines (two red, two white), and includes one free raffle ticket. Entry tickets are \$10, available through Immaculate Conception choir members, or at the door. Additional raffle tickets are \$5 each, or five for \$20. Phone: 919.682.3449.

The Diocesan Office of Stewardship and Development is co-hosting a **Regional Stewardship Conference** on April 28, in Charleston, S.C. Our keynote speaker is Chuck Zech from Villanova University. For more information, contact Debbie Rossi at 919.821.9721 or [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org) or download a brochure at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/events/view.aspx?id=542](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/events/view.aspx?id=542).

**Pure Fashion Fashion Show**, April 29, 5 p.m. There is a 4 p.m. pre-show reception at Embassy Suites Cary, 201 Harrison Oaks Blvd. Cary, NC 27513. For tickets (on sale now) and information, visit [www.PureFashion.com](http://www.PureFashion.com). Pure Fashion is a Christian-based program that celebrates both virtue and style for young women ages 13 to 18. The exciting runway show features beautiful clothes that are both modern and modest. Join us for an evening of dinner, fabulous prizes and entertainment with appearances by local celebrities, music by award-winning contemporary Christian music artist Joy Williams, and of course fashion worn by our models of the Great Designer.

**TORCH**, a support group for Catholic home-schoolers, will be hosting a **Home-school Information Night** on Monday, April 30, from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Fallon Center. We will present answers to many frequently asked questions about home-schooling and current home-schooling mothers will display various curricula. New home-schoolers, veteran home-schoolers, and those considering home-schooling are all invited to attend. Questions? Contact Shannon Dougherty at 919.481.2763 or [ShannonD@nc.rr.com](mailto:ShannonD@nc.rr.com).

**Wedding Anniversary Mass**, May 6, 2 p.m., at Our Lady of Lourdes in Raleigh. To pay tribute to the vocation of marriage, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge will celebrate a Mass for couples marking their 25th, 50th and 50+ wedding anniversaries in 2007. The Mass will be an annual event. Parishes will provide

or, when baptism is celebrated,  
(Ps) Isa 12:2-3,4bcd, 5-6 or  
Ps 51:12-15, 18-19  
Rom 6:3-11  
Ps 118:1-2,6ab-17, 22-23  
Luke 24:1-12

**Sunday, April 8**  
*Easter Sunday*  
Acts 10:34a, 37-43  
Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23  
Col 3:1-4 or  
1Cor 5:6b-8  
Jn 20:1-9(42)  
Lk 24:1-12

or at a later mass  
24:13-35

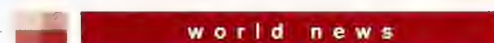
**Sunday, April 15**  
*Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday*  
Acts 5:12-16  
Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24  
Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19  
Jn 20:19-31

**Sunday, April 22**  
*Third Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41  
Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13(2a)  
Rv 5:11-14  
Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

**Sunday, April 29**  
*Good Shepherd Sunday*  
Acts 13:14, 43-52  
Ps 100:1-2,3,5(3c)  
Rv 7:9,14b-17  
Jn 10:27-30

the names of couples to be recognized and honored. Contact Linda Bedo for information at [bedo@raldioc.org](mailto:bedo@raldioc.org).

**Retreat with Marino**, May 18-19, Fri. 7 p.m.- Sat. 5 p.m. at Avila Retreat Center. If you enjoyed last year's spirituality retreat with Marino Restrepo, or if you missed it, please be sure to sign up this year. Call 919.481.4937 to reserve a slot. Cost \$95.



## Pope hails women's role in early church

►► Benedict XVI concluded his series of reflections on figures from the nascent church by highlighting the decisive contribution of women to the development of Christianity. "The church gives thanks for each and every woman," the pope said at the end of his Feb. 14 speech, held in Paul VI Hall.

The church gives thanks "for all the victories which she owes to their faith, hope and charity: She gives thanks for all the fruits of feminine holiness," he stressed, quoting Pope John Paul II's apostolic letter *Mulieris Dignitatem*.

"Women at the service of the Gospel" was the theme Benedict XVI chose for the catechesis, in which he began by reviewing the history of those women who became disciples of Jesus, paying special attention to the Virgin Mary and Mary Magdalene.

Given that the latter "not only was present at the Passion, but also became the first witness and herald of the Risen One," the pontiff called her the "apostle of the apostles," quoting a reference made to her by St. Thomas Aquinas.

Benedict XVI continued recalling the women that had a decisive role in the early church, showing how they had roles of responsibility in their communities noting, as St. Paul said to the Galatians, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

The pope pointed out that St. Paul "admits as something normal that woman can 'prophesy' in the Christian community, that is, pronounce herself openly under the influence of the Holy Spirit, on the condition that it is for the edification of the community and in a dignified manner.

"Therefore, the famous exhortation 'women should keep silence in the churches' must be relativized," he added. - Zenit



# A place for children

St. Mary  
Magdalene,  
Apex

## resource

**St. Mary  
Magdalene**  
625 Magdala  
Apex, NC  
27502  
919.657.4800

**Ministerial  
Staff:**  
Rev. Donald F.  
Staib, pastor

► For more  
information,  
including Mass  
times, visit  
[www.stmm.net](http://www.stmm.net)

the Diocese of  
**Raleigh**

St. Mary Magdalene Church and School in Apex don't look like most other parish complexes in the Diocese of Raleigh. The award-winning architecture is contemporary: Oblong towers with skylights project from a more familiar brick structure. But past the entry, the foyer opens on a stunning indoor court, the floor one story below, the ceiling another story above. There is a small chapel to the right, but Sunday worship is held in the school's state-of-the-art gymnasium. It can easily accommodate 1,500 worshippers.

St. Mary came about in response to the population explosion west and southwest of Raleigh. By 1997, land had been purchased in Apex and in west Cary in anticipation of perhaps two new parishes. Meanwhile St. Michael and St. Andrew were jointly trying to raise funds for a new school. Fr. Don Staib, the founding pastor of St. Mary, returned in 1997 from a sabbatical in Vietnam, and he had expressed a willingness to start a new parish. He joined in the fundraising, which resulted in the beginning of construction at St. Mary and a new school at St.

Michael. Although St. Mary was "conceived" in 1997, Fr. Don says, there were delays in actually getting established on the site. The first Mass was not celebrated there until 2000.

As Fr. Don shows me around the campus, we're surrounded by the sound of children at work and play. One courtyard of the school contains a small greenhouse, as well as a garden, which the schoolchildren tend. Besides the impressive gym, there is a beautiful soccer field on the grounds. St. Mary is a frequent venue for the Carolina Catholic Athletic Association ([www.](http://www.carolinacaa.org)

[carolinacaa.org](http://carolinacaa.org)), which provides youth athletic programs and summer camps for parishes in the diocese.

"The uniqueness of St. Mary," the pastor says, "is our youth."

We're 48 percent children. The last time we counted, there were only 42 parishioners older than I am (71). Although we have 1,200 families, we had first communions in 1 of 9 of them last year. When I hear kids' confessions, there are more than 600 – I break it up into groups over a couple of weeks. We have only about two funerals a year."

One wonders if the future will bring more parishes like St. Mary Magdalene. Sensing the buoyancy and bustle of this young community, that seems like a very good future indeed.

– Rich Reece



"The uniqueness of St. Mary," the pastor says, "is our youth. We're 48 percent children. The last time we counted, there were only 42 parishioners older than I am (71)."



# use your **IRA** as never before: to make a **gift** to the **Catholic Church**

On Aug. 17, 2006, President Bush signed into law The Pension Protection Act of 2006 that encourages financial support of charitable organizations across the United States. The new legislation offers a welcome incentive to donors who want to use the money in their IRAs to make charitable gifts.

**How the New Law Works:** The IRA rollover provision allows charitable distributions of up to \$100,000 from an IRA or a Roth IRA to be excluded from your gross income. In addition, the amount rolled over will count against a donor's minimum distribution requirement. As in previous versions of IRA rollover legislation, there is no federal income tax deduction available for these contributions in addition to their exclusion from income.

## Example On How The New Law Works:

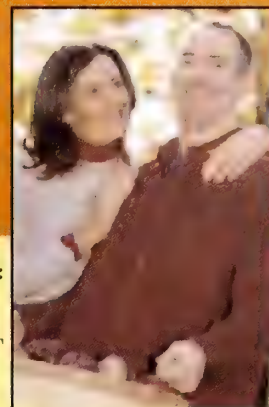
Pat, aged 80, has \$450,000 in an IRA and has pledged to give \$75,000 to her church this year. If Pat transfers \$75,000 from the IRA, she will avoid paying income tax on that amount. She cannot, however, claim a charitable deduction — it is a pure "wash." Pat has found an easy way to benefit her church without tax complications. If she desires, Pat could give more than \$100,000 because the legislation allows a maximum \$100,000 gift in both the 2006 and 2007 tax years. If her spouse has an IRA and is 70-1/2 or older, he can also give up to \$100,000 each year.

You may contribute funds this way if:

- You are age 70-1/2 or older
- The gift is \$100,000 or less each year
- You make the gift on or before Dec. 31, 2007
- You transfer funds directly from an IRA or Rollover IRA to the charity
- You transfer the gift outright to one or more public charities; rollovers to a planned gift, such as a gift annuity or a charitable remainder trust, do not qualify.

**How to Make a Gift:** Contact Debbie Rossi at the Diocese of Raleigh for a sample letter to provide to your IRA custodian to transfer your desired gift amount to the Catholic Church. For example, you can pay your BAA, God's Work~Our Challenge, parish capital campaign pledge or offertory with this gift.

For more information, please call Debbie Rossi at (919) 821-9721, or email her at [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org). You may also write her at: Diocese of Raleigh; 715 Nazareth St.; Raleigh, NC 27606.



Visit our Web Site: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

## New Pennybyrn at Maryfield Cottages Going Fast.

A Pennybyrn at Maryfield cottage is a superb choice for those wanting to secure a full-service retirement lifestyle and still experience the feel of a residential neighborhood.

These charming two-bedroom, two-bath cottages range from 1,458 to 1,710 square feet and are available in three floor plans. Each is smartly appointed with fully equipped kitchens, bright, open interiors, generous storage and safety features. Two floor plans feature a garage and all have an inviting porch. Interior upgrades are available in kitchen and bath cabinetry, countertops, carpet and appliances.

With sponsorship by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God, Pennybyrn at Maryfield is the culmination of 60 years of rich his-



*Pennybyrn at Maryfield cottages  
let you have it all.*

tory, quality service and excellent reputation. The cottages are just one part of the new 71-acre Pennybyrn full-service retirement community now under construction on the Maryfield campus. Scheduled to open in the Fall, Pennybyrn at Maryfield will also offer apartment residences, superior amenities, unparalleled services and the provision of on-site assisted living and nursing care.

### All the Perks in a Private Setting

"A cottage home at Pennybyrn at Maryfield offers the best of both worlds," says Pennybyrn Marketing Director Tricia Pratt. "You will be just steps away from all the activities, with easy access to Pennybyrn at Maryfield's exceptional wellness opportunities, gorgeous commons area, elegant dining, healthcare center and more. As a resident, you can trust the reputation, stability and rich tradition of this faith-based community."

**Only a few cottages remain.**

**Call today.**

Already almost 85% reserved, Pennybyrn at Maryfield is filling fast, with only a few more cottages available. Call (336) 886-4103 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 or visit the web at [www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com).





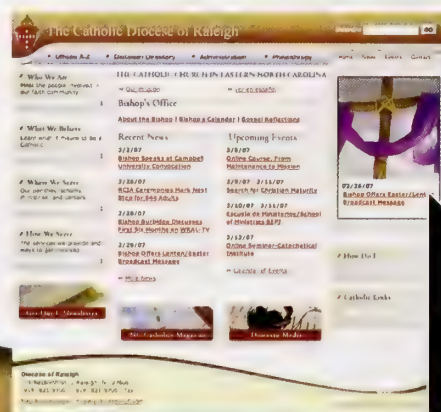
# your church at your fingertips

⚡ **breaking, detailed diocesan news**

⚡ **complete events calendar**

⚡ **podcasting** ⚡ **parish links**

⚡ **Bishop's weekly gospel reflections –  
video and print versions**



Go Now to  
**www.dioceseofraleigh.org**

For the latest diocesan news & information logon to [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

**NC**Catholics

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

|||||

\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514

113774

P 12 1094

SERIALS DEPARTMENT

32601

CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY

UNC CHAPEL HILL

CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE

OF THE CATHOLIC

CHURCH IN EASTERN

NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

May 2007

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

from the bishop  
Chastity:  
A reflection  
of God's love

parish profile  
One community  
from two:  
St. Julia Siler City



# Chastity

begins at home



**T**his issue of *NC Catholics* addresses the virtue of chastity. It is an important virtue to understand and integrate into daily life because it deals with one of the most powerful aspects of our humanity: sexuality.

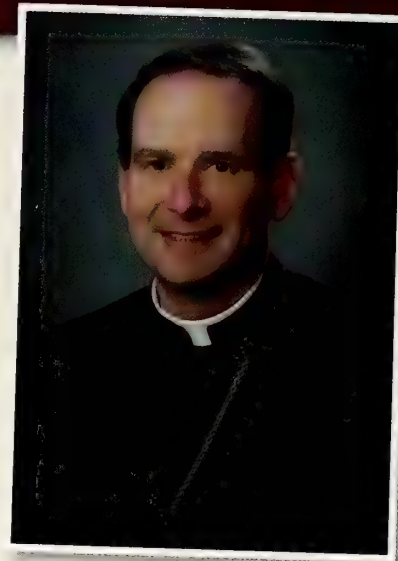
Everyone wants to love and be loved. Catholics believe that human love should always strive to be an expression of divine love because this is the example of love Jesus gave us. The love between two individuals, an individual and others, even, ultimately, two enemies, is meant to be an expression of divine love.

Because we want to love and be loved, because human love should always strive to be an expression of divine love, and because we are sexual beings, the virtue of chastity guides us in ordering these three aspects of our lives properly according to our state in life. It is an important virtue because there is within us an aspect of our human nature that can distort a proper understanding of love by turning people into objects to be used for our own gratification. In addition, we live in a culture that works full time trying to eradicate any semblance of Christian sexual ethics, especially chastity. In our contemporary society, many people, especially the young, are being seduced to follow the voice of secular culture and fallible human will rather than the voice and will of God. The consequences of this are all around us: epidemic levels of abortion; addiction to pornography; premarital sex among younger and younger children; cohabitation among young adults; artificial contraception; marital infidelity; sexual abuse; etc.

The Church wants us to avoid these consequences and to live the way God intends. This is one reason we become members of the Church. The Church, established by the Lord Jesus Himself who is the Son of God, teaches us how to love and be loved as sexual beings in accord with the will of God. Formation in the virtue of chastity helps us to love and be loved in the proper way. Lived well, chastity integrates the spiritual dimension of a person with his or her body. The practice of chastity also heals the disconnect between love and sex.

Why is this so important? The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* provides a key insight: In Jesus Christ, "God has revealed His innermost secret: God Himself is an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and (emphasis mine) He has destined us to share in that exchange" (CCC#221). We believe that we are created to be part of the perfect love that is the Most Holy Trinity – forever! How we live our lives on earth does affect our existence in this eternal exchange of love. This is why cultivating the virtue of chastity is important.

May Mary, model of chastity, inspire us to follow her example and help us on our journey to the eternal exchange of love.



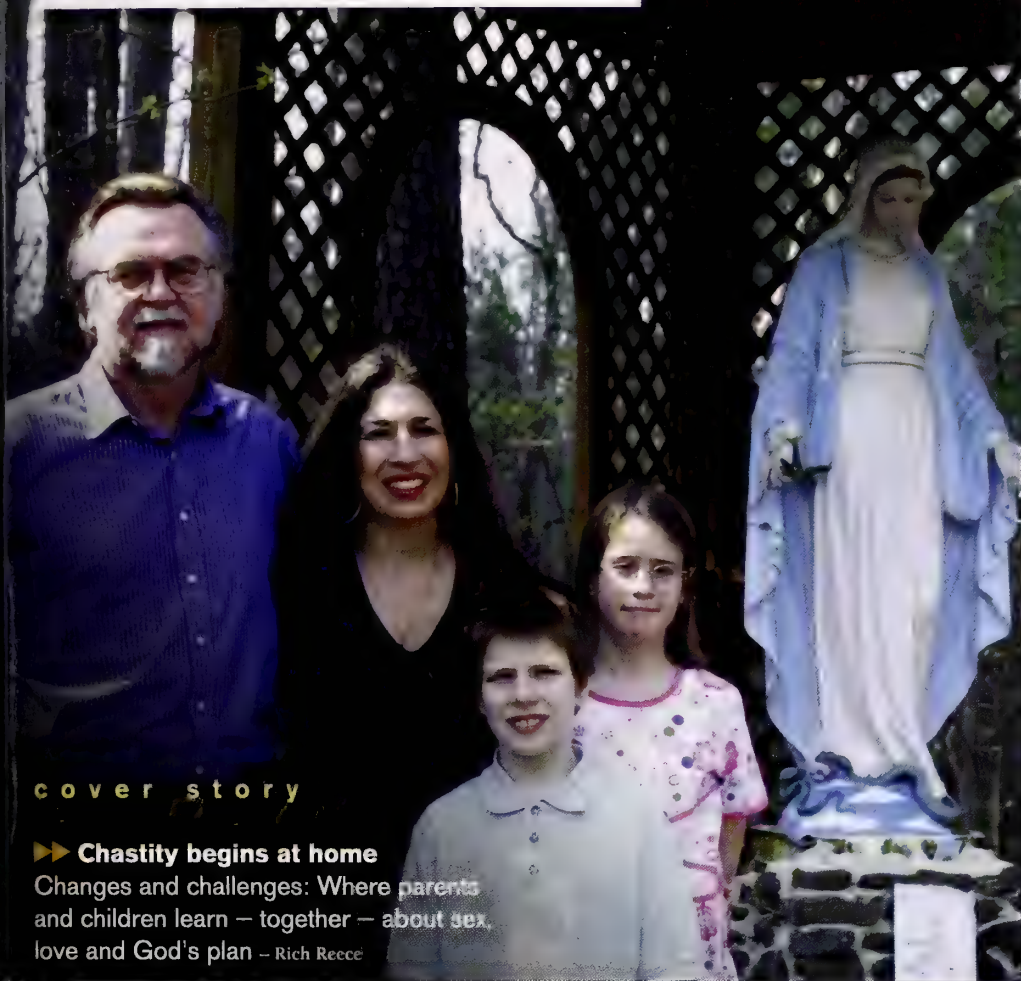
We believe that we are created to be part of the perfect love that is the Most Holy Trinity – forever! How we live our lives on earth does affect our existence in this eternal exchange of love.

# Chastity

A reflection of God's love

– Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is Bishop of Raleigh.





## cover story

### ► Chastity begins at home

Changes and challenges: Where parents and children learn — together — about sex, love and God's plan — Rich Reece

## 16 el hispano católico

### La castidad comienza en casa ►►

Changes and challenges (Cambios y retos): Un programa donde juntos, padres e hijos aprenden sobre sexo, amor y sobre el Plan de Dios.

## 18 Ya que usted lo pregunta...

### Ya que usted lo pregunta ►►

À menudo escucho que las palabras casto y célibe se usan como si fueran lo mismo, pero creo que no lo son. ¿Podrían ustedes explicar la diferencia?

— Padre David McBriar, O.E.M.

## 19 Obispo Burbidge

### La castidad: un reflejo del amor de Dios.

— Obispo Michael E. Burbidge



►► On the cover: The McVeigh family of Wilson: Deborah, Abby, Tim and Hayden

# inside

what you'll get out of this issue

## from the bishop

2 Chastity: A reflection of God's love.

— Bishop Michael E. Burbidge

## from the editor

5 A misunderstood virtue. — Rich Reece

## since you asked ...

6 Dear NCC: Sometimes I hear the words *chaste* and *celibate* used interchangeably. I don't think they're the same. Could you explain the difference? — Fr. David McBriar, O.E.M.

## parish poll

7 What is your favorite prayer?

## theology 101

8 Exactly how is Jesus in the Eucharist? A conversation about Christology with seminary professors. — Elizabeth Solsburg

## voices in our church

11 Models of heroic chastity

— Msgr. Thomas Hadden

11 Los Modelos de Vida — Padre Fernando Torres

## your marriage matters

20 He says: When we're on vacation, I want to see all the sights.

She says: I want to sit on the beach.

What do they do?

— Tom and Jo Anne Fogle



## the parenting journey

21 My kid hates Mass. What do you say when your child doesn't want any part of church? — Dr. Cathleen McGreal

## spiritual fitness

22 Chastity — What the birds and bees and even elephants can teach us!

— Father Bill Ashbaugh

## parish profile

30 One community from two:

St. Julia, Siler City. — Rich Reece



# NC Catholics

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

May 2007 • Vol. 3 : Issue 4

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Fr. David McBriar, O.F.M.  
Fr. Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Irene Gonzalez  
TRANSLATOR

Denmark Photo & Video (cover)  
Hutzler Photography  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Enomhen Odigie  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Jillane Job  
SUBSCRIPTIONS/SECRETARY

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Betsy Miner  
Derek Melot  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT



NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail nccatholics.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™ Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

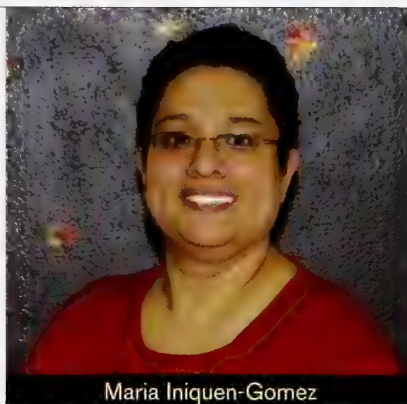
Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
**919.821.9730**

## Burlington teacher wins 2007 Lewis Award

**O**n April 25 at Blessed Sacrament Church in Burlington, Bishop Burbidge presented Mrs. Maria Iniquen-Gomez, middle school science and social studies teacher at Blessed Sacrament School, with the 2007 Msgr. Gerald R. Lewis Award. The honor is given each year to a teacher in the diocese to promote and encourage excellence in teaching. The two most important criteria are the ability to form positive relationships and to inspire students to learn.

▶▶ A teacher with 28 years of experience, 20 of them at Blessed Sacrament, Gomez is herself a product of Catholic education. "My vision of Catholic schooling is to cultivate the spirituality of each child," she says. "I want to teach the children that God is the center of our lives, and since we are all made in God's image, everyone brings value to the world." Gomez says, "Even after 28 years, I still get excited about teaching every day. I believe that any child who walks into my classroom walks into my life, and I will love them and educate them the best that I can."

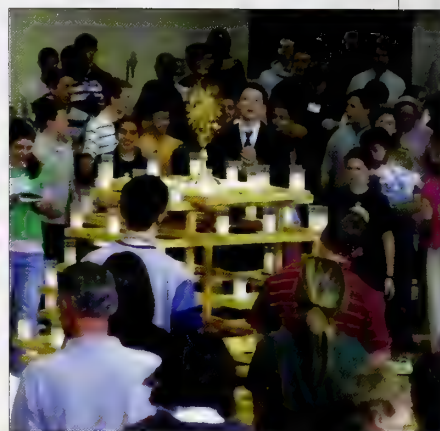


Maria Iniquen-Gomez

She uses a variety of teaching methods in her classroom, the teacher explains, eschewing textbooks for the most part in favor of "hands-on activities": experiments, technology, role-playing, problem solving and oral presentations. "I want the atmosphere in my classroom to foster participation," she says.

Gomez says that teaching grades 6, 7 and 8 gives her the chance to see the "beautiful growth" of the children under her care. "When they're sixth, they're like babies finding their way, then in seventh they get what we call seventh-grade-itis, they look around like 'Why are we here?' Then in grade eight there's that maturity level, and that awareness as they approach graduation that they are leaving a stage of their lives behind."

Two other teachers in the diocese were finalists for this year's award: Mr. James Elliott, who teaches fifth grade at St. Raphael School; and Mrs. Diane Lee, who teaches English and literature to middle-school students at Cathedral School.



## Teens and young adults embrace John 6:35 Retreat

▶▶ More than 500 teenagers and young adults from the Diocese of Raleigh took part in the John 6:35 Eucharistic Retreat, March 23-25 at the Franklin Academy High School in Wake Forest. The retreat is based on the Gospel of John, chapter 6, "I am the bread of life."

The focus of the weekend was Mass and eucharistic adoration. It also included the sacrament of reconciliation, catechesis, prayer, meditation, fellowship and music. The format encourages and inspires young people to develop a deeper and more personal relationship with Jesus, and through that relationship to become more effective evangelizers of the word.

This year's presenters included Deacon Ralph Poyo, director of Faith Formation at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Raleigh; Father Terry Messer, CFR; and Br. Tobias Joseph Holtz, CFR, member of the Franciscan Friars of Renewal based in New York City. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge presided at the closing Mass on Sunday.

## OFFICIAL

▶▶ Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge welcomed Reverend Choong Seob Kim from the Archdiocese of Seoul, Korea, and confirmed his appointment as Pastor of the Triangle Korean Catholic Community of Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill, effective Feb. 8, 2007. Father Kim is in residence in New Hill, N.C.



## Catholic scouts hold annual camporee

►► More than 250 Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Venture Scouts and Webelos II Cub Scouts, scout leaders and parents were part of this year's Diocese of Raleigh Catholic Camporee. The event was held March 23-25 at Camp Tuscarora Scout Reservation in Four Oaks, N.C. The camporee was open to all Catholic scouts working with Catholic and non-Catholic sponsored scouting units in the diocese.

The theme of this year's event was Love and the Scout Law, with scouts taking part in retreat sessions as well as team-building activities. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge presided at Saturday evening Mass and took part in the awarding of religious emblems to a number of the scouts.

In addition, four scout leaders received recognition for their outstanding service to scouting in the diocese. Bishop Burbidge presented the Bronze Pelican Medal to Deborah Wiggins, Ralph Hinrichs and Jim Cichetti.

Wiggins, a parishioner at St. Patrick Church in Fayetteville, has been involved in scouting for 30 years. Hinrichs, a member of Good Shepherd Church in Hope Mills, has been active in scouting for more than 50 years. Cichetti, a member of St. Raphael Parish in Raleigh, has been actively involved in scouting since 1978.

Ted Allen, a parishioner of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fayetteville, was presented the St. George Award, a national honor which recognizes outstanding service the recipient has given to the spiritual development of Catholic youth through the scouting apostolate. In addition to his more than 50 years of scouting service, Allen is a Minister of Communion and an active member of the Knights of Columbus in his parish.



## A misunderstood virtue

In two years of editing *NC Catholics*, I don't think preparing any issue has been more educational for me than this one. To begin with, our theme, chastity, is not only widely misunderstood, but really under attack in our society. If we're confused about this virtue, there are good reasons. For instance, when I tried Googling *chastity*, the first page listed several Web sites promoting the exact opposite. Most of us who have been parents in the past couple of decades know the feeling of watching a seemingly innocent television program with our children and suddenly getting slammed with an advertisement that's not innocent at all. So much of what we're exposed to portrays chastity as limiting, old-fashioned and "prudish." So, I hope this issue will give you, as it did me, a clearer understanding of the way chastity is, in fact, crucial to our development as whole human beings.

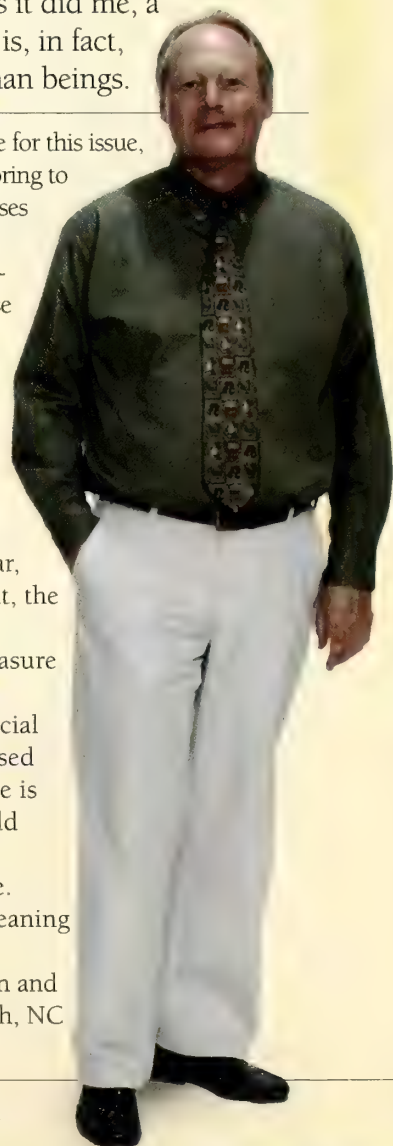
Second, in interviewing people around the diocese for this issue, I learned about the depth of commitment so many bring to Catholic moral development, as parents and as spouses and as single people. I attended a parents' night for "Changes and Challenges," a chastity education program in our diocese (p. 12), and the resolve of those parents to instill Catholic values in their children, the seriousness with which they took their own vocations as their children's chief teachers, was palpable. Learning about the role of chastity in marriage from a couple who volunteer as teachers of Natural Family Planning (p. 15) was inspiring.

My education was supplemented by our columnists this month, including Fr. David McBriar, O.F.M., who explains, in case you didn't know it, the difference between chastity and celibacy.

On another subject, I had the pleasure of talking with Mrs. Maria Iniquen-Gomez, who teaches science and social studies in the middle school at Blessed Sacrament School in Burlington. She is this year's winner of the Msgr. Gerald Lewis Award, given annually to an outstanding educator in our diocese. Read her interview and learn the meaning of "seventh-grade-itis."

Thanks, as always, for your reaction and input. I'm at 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606 or [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).

— Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

FIRST FRIDAY  
VOCATIONS  
HOLY HOUR

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD  
AND RELIGIOUS LIFE IN THE DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>

MUSIC & CONFESSIONS — 7:30 P.M.  
HOLY HOUR — 8:00 P.M.



# dear NCC

This month with  
Father David McBriar, O.F.M.

**Dear NCC:** Sometimes I hear the words *chaste* and *celibate* used interchangeably. I don't think they're the same. Could you explain the difference?

**C**hastity and celibacy are not the same. If you are married, you are called to be chaste. If you are single, you are called to be chaste. Chastity is a virtue we are all called to embrace. According to the *Encyclopedia of Catholicism*, chastity is "the virtue that pursues the integration of the true meaning of human sexuality and intimacy, whether one is married or not." The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* places chastity as a virtue within the framework of the integration of our sexuality, the integration of our body and our soul. Chastity is not absence of sexual intimacy between married couples. A married couple's sexual intimacy is an expression of the truth of their covenanted love.

Chastity is a virtue that, with the grace of God, one learns and must practice over a lifetime. The human person is a bodily and spiritual being. The virtue of chastity involves the integration of the gifts of body and spirit. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says:

*Chastity includes an apprenticeship in self-mastery which is training in human freedom. The alternative is clear: either man governs his passions and finds peace or he lets himself be dominated by them and becomes unhappy. "Man's dignity therefore requires him to act out of a conscious and free choice, as moved and drawn in a personal way from within, and not by blind impulses in himself or by mere external constraint. Man gains such dignity when, ridding himself of all slavery to the passions, he presses forward to his goal by freely choosing what is good and, by his diligence and skill,*

*effectively secures for himself the means suited to this end."* (CCC 2339)

And it should be clearly stated that it is slavery to passion, not passion itself, which is destructive. Our passion for food, for love, for peace, for human dignity and for sexual intimacy is good. It is a gift from God. It is when our passions are out of control that they rob us of our dignity and our freedom.

There is a great image in one of Plato's dialogues, the "Phaedrus." Plato describes the human soul

as a charioteer trying to control two horses. One wants to run away, out of control. The other is gracious and benign. It's the charioteer's challenge to rein in the one horse and balance its passion with the spirit of the gentler horse. It is when the two work together that the human soul achieves its goal. So, too, with our sexuality. We must learn to control, not stifle or eliminate, our passion for sexual satisfaction. We do this by listening to our conscience, illuminated by the grace of God and the teachings of our Church. In this way integration will happen and we will know the freedom that

►► **The person who chooses celibacy does not surrender his or her sexuality. Rather he or she enhances it, puts it within a horizon of service to the human family.**

comes from this balance.

Celibacy, on the other hand, means that a man or woman chooses to abstain from marriage and sexual activity. Celibacy is a gift freely given by God and, in order for it to be lived well, it must be freely accepted. The person who chooses celibacy does not surrender his or her sexual-

**Our passion for food, for love, for peace, for human dignity and for sexual intimacy is good. It is a gift from God. It is when our passions are out of control that they rob us of our dignity and our freedom.**

ity. Rather he or she enhances it, puts it within a horizon of service to the human family. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, commenting on celibacy, says this:

*Christ is the center of all Christian life. The bond with Him takes precedence over*

*all other bonds, familial or social. From the very beginning of the Church there have been men and*





## "When I give, I give myself"

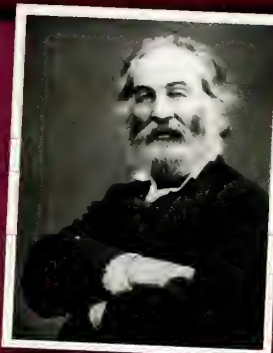
What year was Walt Whitman born?

► Widely known for his works such as *Leaves of Grass* (which, he felt, would never truly be finished) and *Democratic Vistas*, writer and poet Walt Whitman was born on **May 31, WHAT YEAR?**

► Attracting an audience of 200 people and hosted by Douglas Fairbanks and William C. de Mille, the very first awards ceremony of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was held at the Roosevelt Hotel in Los Angeles, on **May 16, WHAT YEAR?**

► Gregory XIII, who transformed the Julian calendar into the Gregorian one we use today, was named pope on **May 14, WHAT YEAR?** His election was met with joy among Romans and foreigners alike.

► Eventually going on to hit 714 home runs and retire as a New York Yankee, the "Sultan of Swat," Babe Ruth, hit his first major-league home run as a member of the Boston Red Sox on **May 6, WHAT YEAR?**



Answers: 1819, 1929, 1572, 1915

women who have renounced the great good of marriage to follow the Lamb wherever he goes, to be intent on the things of the Lord, to seek to please him, and to go out to meet the Bridegroom who is coming. Christ himself has invited certain persons to follow Him in this way of life, of which he remains the model. "For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who is able to receive this, let him receive it." (CCC 1618)

Chastity is "the virtue that pursues the integration of the true meaning of human sexuality and intimacy, whether one is married or not." Celibacy is a gift from God to live without a partner intimately and to refrain from sexual activity for the sake of the Kingdom of God, thus dedicating oneself entirely to the life of service of the human family. ☺

— Father David McBriar, O.F.M., is pastor emeritus of Immaculate Conception Parish, Durham.

**Send your questions to:**

**"Since you asked ..."**

715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606

Or: reece@raldioc.org

### NCC online resources

More Catholic questions, answers and online discussion:  
**www.Catholic-QandA.org**

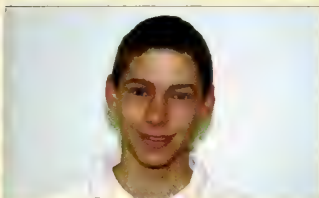
Know an inactive Catholic? Invite them to visit  
**www.Once-Catholic.org**

Diocesan Division of Evangelization and Catechesis:  
**919.821.9746**

## Pray tell...

What is your favorite prayer?

This month we asked eighth-graders from St. Raphael School in Raleigh: **What is your favorite prayer? Why?**



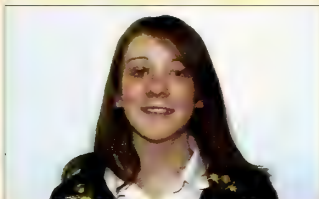
**Bryan**

My favorite is the prayer to St. Anthony because it works! And I am constantly losing things.



**Jovanna**

I like praying by myself in a quiet room, just having a conversation with God and thanking Him each day for everything He has given me.



**Lauren**

I love to pray through singing and my favorite Christian song goes, "Lead me, guide me along the way. For if You lead me, I cannot stray..." It's been said that when we sing, we pray twice.



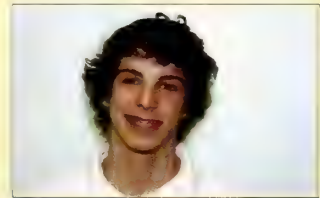
**Dani**

"I've got four corners on my bed; I've got four angels on my head. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, bless the bed that I sleep on." This prayer is relaxing and says a lot in just a few lines.



**Zach**

My favorite prayer changes daily with my needs. I first pray the Confiteor for my sins, then I make a prayer of my own for things to come in the next day, whether these are things for myself or for others.



**Paul**

My favorite prayer is not a standard prayer like the Our Father, but it is my life. Life is my prayer because I can share it with everyone I meet.





theologian  
of the month

**St. Therese  
of Lisieux**  
(1873-1897)

• This very young saint is one of the doctors of the church, a title granted to those who possess eminent learning, a high degree of sanctity and have been proclaimed as such by the church.

• Her elder sister, Pauline, entered the Carmelite convent when Therese was 9.

• Shortly thereafter, while Therese was desperately ill with fever, she prayed to Mary, a statue of whom was in her room. She saw the statue smile and was instantly cured.

• After being turned down herself at the Carmelite convent because of her age, Therese petitioned the bishop and the pope and was finally admitted.

• She died at age 24, still a novice. Her *Little Way*, a journal of her small daily sacrifices and her trust in Jesus, was published by Pauline and appealed to thousands of Catholics who were trying to do the same. Within 28 years, she had been canonized.

Exactly how  
is Jesus  
in the

How is he  
present?

# Eucharist

**T**his year, *NC Catholics* is exploring Christology – the study of Jesus Christ. We asked several eminent seminary professors some questions about Jesus. Their answers are enlightening and thought-provoking.

**NCC: Tell us about Jesus as Eucharist. How is he present? How and why did he do it? How does it tie into our Jewish roots?**

**Father Muller:** In the modern period, it's difficult to talk about the mechanics of how the Eucharist is possible. We've made it more difficult because the way we talk about substance has changed. To us, substance means "this collection of atoms." Whereas, in the medieval period, when these definitions were being established, there were different definitions. It wasn't an atomistic understanding – it really looked more at unity. When you have an atomistic understanding, you consider the unity

Meet the  
professors



Father Acklin



Father Muller



Father Stevens

- **Father Thomas Acklin** is a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa. He is a graduate of Duquesne University, St. Vincent Seminary, The Catholic University of Louvain and Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Institute.
- **Father Earl Muller** is The Bishop Kevin M. Britt Professor of Theology/Christology at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. He formerly taught at Marquette University in Wisconsin.
- **Father Gladstone Stevens** is on the faculty of St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.



**Heresy!**

**Adoptionism: Jesus was adopted, not begotten**

►► **Jesus was the son of God – but not until he was adopted as an adult.** That's adoptionism in a nutshell. Adherents to this heresy, in the second century, believed that Christ did not exist until he was born as a man. God tested him and because Jesus passed the tests, God adopted him and gave him supernatural powers. Then, because he was so good and holy, God raised him from the dead and elevated him to divinity.

**Adoptionism was a way to deal with who Jesus really was – God or man.** Paul's letter to the Colossians refutes this heresy with what we now call the doctrine of hypostatic union – Jesus is both God and man. (Col. 2:9)

**This heresy was condemned by Pope Victor near the end of the second century, but reared its head again in the eighth century.** In that version, adherents believed that Jesus was the son of God in his divinity, but was only adopted as the first-born of God in his humanity. This variation on the theme was condemned in 798 by Pope Leo III in a council in Rome.

of a thing as being secondary. So, for instance, when you look at a rock, you can keep breaking little pieces off it. The problem is that with human reality, there is a unity to this collection of atoms that the modern way of talking about substance really can't get at. We need to recapture some of that though in order to understand the reality of the Eucharist – otherwise we look at this collection of atoms and ask where Christ is. The Gospels make it clear that Jesus delighted in touching people. The physicality of the Eucharist allows Him to continue to touch His people throughout time and space.

**Father Stevens:** There is a food theme in the Scriptures. So many of Jesus' controversies involve eating. This theme reaches its height in the Eucharist. It is not helpful to debate whether it is a sacrifice or a meal. If we

understand sacrifice as bringing about fellowship, then it doesn't mean there is a difference. We have a constant need to be in fellowship with God. Jesus promised to be with us "until the end of the age" and this is one of the ways He accomplishes that.

He accomplishes that. And why bread and wine? It continues the mystery of the incarnation – it is the glory of God in humble form. Thomas Aquinas says that

We have a constant need to be in fellowship with God. Jesus promised to be with us "until the end of the age" and this is one of the ways He accomplishes that.



**what does that symbol mean?**

**Anchor**

►► **The anchor is one of the oldest symbols of Christianity.**

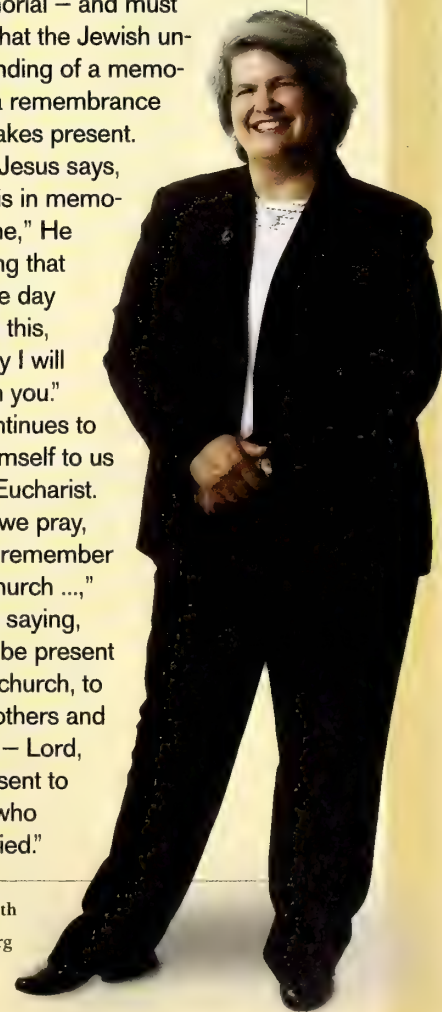
As a long-understood representation of safety, it epitomizes hope in salvation through Jesus. Anchors appear in epitaphs in the catacombs and are often styled with a crossbar representing the cross of Christ in a subtle message.

this is another way in which God accommodates himself to our human condition. He doesn't simply give up food; He becomes food for us. There is an older word, *viaticum*, or food for the journey. It reminds us of the Passover journey – food for the nation of Israel as they are on a journey to the Promised Land. The Eucharist is our food for the journey.

**Father Acklin:** Eucharist is the new Passover, the new paschal lamb, the new covenant. These connections with Passover law are important. There was an integral connection between Christianity and Judaism until Christians were expelled from the Temple and Paul's apostolate to the gentiles began to grow. A Jewish element that is important when we are talking about real presence is the word "remember." We talk about the Last Supper as a memorial – and must recall that the Jewish understanding of a memorial is a remembrance that makes present. When Jesus says, "Do this in memory of me," He is saying that "On the day you do this, that day I will be with you."

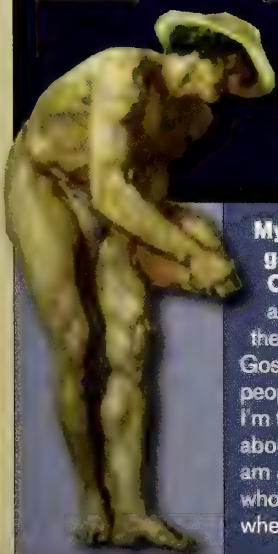
He continues to give himself to us in the Eucharist. When we pray, "Lord, remember your church ...," we are saying, "Lord, be present to our church, to our brothers and sisters – Lord, be present to those who have died."

– Elizabeth  
Solsburg



**Bible Quiz**

**I am one of Paul's helpers – who am I?**



**My name may suggest a Greek god to you, but I am a devout Christian.** I was a good friend and helper to Paul – he mentions the work I did in the name of the Gospels at Corinth. For some reason, people do listen to me – sometimes I'm told I have "charisma." I taught about Jesus to everyone I met – I am a true believer. I hadn't heard the whole story though – I wasn't there when the Holy Spirit descended

on the believers in Jerusalem at Pentecost. However, Priscilla and Aquila taught me everything they had learned from Paul about the way of the Lord. You know, some people think I am the author of the letter to the Hebrews – maybe and maybe not. As Origen wrote, "God only knows." **Who am I?**

►► **Turn to page 30 for the answer**



# Who's the real patron saint of travelers?

No, St. Christopher is a myth

## Saint Brendan of Clonfert

**Birthplace:** Ireland  
**Feast Day:** May 16

**Claim to fame:** One of the great leaders of Irish Christianity, Brendan was born in Ireland around 464. He was raised by St. Ita, after which he completed his education with the bishop of Kerry. As St. Patrick brought Christianity to Ireland, monastery life became a popular vocation and Brendan became a monk. He gathered his own followers and settled as abbot in his own community. It is said that an angel appeared to give Brendan his order's rules. Each day the monks prayed for several hours, observed long periods of silence, studied, ate just enough to survive and slept on cold floors in their cells. The monks also painstakingly copied manuscripts of Greek and Roman literature to create exquisite illuminated manuscripts.

**Best quote:** A popular legend called *The Voyage of St. Brendan* tells how Brendan and a group of monks traveled in a wooden boat looking for the paradise of Adam and Eve. Brendan had enough supplies for 12 monks, but two more begged to go along. Brendan said, "Ye may sail with me, but one of you will go to perdition ere you return." Near the end of the journey, one of them leapt overboard to escape a volcano, fulfilling Brendan's prophecy.

**What made him a saint:** Brendan became a missionary, traveling through Ireland to Europe and even across the Atlantic. The monasteries he established became vital centers of art and learning. The most important one Brendan founded was Clonfert in Ireland, where as many as 3,000 monks may have lived. For many centuries, sailors have prayed to St. Brendan for protection, hoping that some day they would find the promised land — St. Brendan's Isle. But Brendan's true legacy lies in his tireless zeal, which introduced God's teaching to many.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, as Brendan took risks to proclaim your word, help us to be risk-takers in our own lives for you. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

— Elizabeth Johnson



## Santo Brendan de Clonfert

**Lugar de nacimiento:** Irlanda  
**Día del santo:** 16 de mayo  
**Patrono de los Marineros y Viajeros**

**Lo que lo hizo famoso:** Uno de los grandes líderes de la fe cristiana en Irlanda, Brendan nació en Irlanda alrededor del año 464. Lo crió Santa Ita y posteriormente completó su educación con el Obispo de Kerry. Cuando San Patricio introdujo el Cristianismo en Irlanda, la vida de monasterio se transformó en una vocación popular y Brendan se hizo monje. Reuniendo a sus seguidores se instaló como abad de su propia comunidad. Se dice que apareció un ángel para darle a Brendan las reglas de su Orden. Todos los días los monjes oraban por varias horas, guardaban periodos prolongados de silencio, estudiaban, comían solamente lo necesario para subsistir y dormían en el suelo frío de sus celdas. Los monjes además copiaban minuciosamente manuscritos de la literatura griega y romana creando manuscritos exquisitamente iluminados.

**Su mejor cita:** La leyenda popular llamada *El Viaje de San Brendan* nos cuenta cómo Brendan y un grupo de monjes viajaron en un bote de madera buscando el paraíso de Adán y Eva. Brendan solamente disponía de viveres para 12 monjes, pero dos monjes más le rogaron que les permitieran viajar con él. Brendan les dijo, "Podéis navegar conmigo" y agregó, "pero uno de vosotros encontrará la perdición antes de volver." Cerca del final del viaje, uno de ellos saltó al agua para escapar de un volcán, cumpliendo así la profecía de Brendan.

**Lo que lo hizo santo:** Brendan se hizo misionero y viajó por Irlanda y Europa y aún cruzó el Atlántico. Los monasterios que estableció se volvieron centros de vital importancia para la educación y las artes. El centro más importante fundado por Brendan fue Clonfert, en Irlanda, donde es posible que hayan vivido hasta 3.000 monjes. Por muchos siglos, los marineros le han orado a San Brendan para obtener protección, esperando algún día encontrar la tierra prometida - la Isla de San Brendan. Pero el verdadero legado de Brendan está en su fervor incansable que les trajo a muchos las enseñanzas de Dios.

**Oración:** Querido Señor, así como Brendan estuvo dispuesto a arriesgarse para proclamar tu palabra, ayúdanos a arriesgarnos por ti en nuestras propias vidas. Te pedimos esto en el nombre de Jesús. Amén. —Escrito por Transline USA



## Models of heroic chastity

**W**hen we think of modesty and chastity, we so often think of these in the context of the lack of such virtue in contemporary society. In doing so, we forget those men and women who live lives of modesty and chastity in our midst.

We find such people living quietly, honestly and with holiness in our midst. They are present in our parishes; they live in our neighborhoods; they follow an ordinary working day. Yet these and all of us need role models we can read about and to whom we can relate.

In thinking of whom I could add here as models, I picked up a little booklet that Father JaVan Saxon wrote a few years ago for his parishioners in Rocky Mount. This booklet is entitled *Celebration of Black Saints and Blesseds of Africa and African Ancestry*.

One of Father Saxon's accounts instructs us in the dedication to modesty and chastity of young pages in the court of King Mwanga of Uganda. These young men were selected because they were considered to be sincere, intelligent and generous. Yet the king grew to hate them intensely for their purity. Because the pages refused to commit impure acts, he ordered them cut into pieces, burned and thrown to the dogs.

The White Fathers of Africa had converted many Ugandans to Catholicism. In fact, they were expelled from the country by the king because of their success in conversions. The young pages were among these converts. They were between the ages of 13 and 30 and they suffered horrible cruelty with heroic courage and died nobly for Christ.

Some might consider this an extreme example. On reflection, it can be seen as speaking to the self-martyrdom that we are all invited to take up in imitation of Jesus, who calls us to heroism in following Him. Meditate on this.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden

**These young men were selected because they were considered to be sincere, intelligent and generous. Yet the king grew to hate them intensely for their purity.**



## Camino de Emaús

**C**omo los discípulos de Emaús que caminaron en un proceso catequético, conociendo a Jesús que camina junto a ellos, para entender el momento que vivían en su propia historia y la de su pueblo, hasta llegar al encuentro vivo, alegre y radiante de fe que les permitió reconocer al Cristo Vivo, resucitado y presente a través del compartir el pan. De la misma forma nuestras comunidades necesitan vivir este proceso, no sólo en el tiempo de la Pascua, sino también en nuestro diario caminar como niños, jóvenes y adultos.

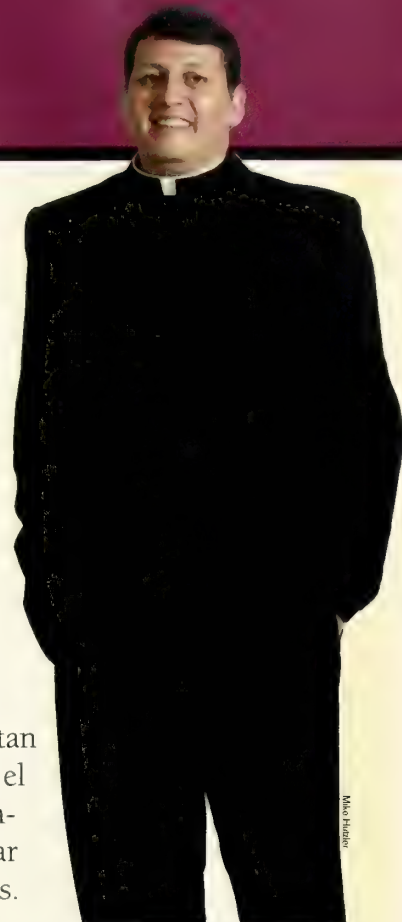
Caminamos con un cristianismo que necesita renovarse y actualizarse continuamente. Los padres de familia no recuerdan los mandamientos, los niños no saben cómo participar en la celebración de la Santa Misa y muchos de los jóvenes se sienten que no tienen un lugar ni participación dentro de la Iglesia.

En muchas de las parroquias han surgido personas que entusiasmo y espíritu de servicio han aceptado prepararse para ayudar a otros a recibir los sacramentos, pero en la medida que se disponen a hacerlo descubren que ellos no solo tienen que aprender conceptos, sino también deben confrontar sus vidas con el Evangelio y para poder a participar de la mesa donde Jesús revela que ha estado y estará siempre con nosotros.

Ser catequista es ser un testigo que anuncia con su compromiso bautismal en la Iglesia a ayudar a leer los signos de los tiempos, a servir como puente para que la persona reconozca a Jesús y se comprometa a anunciarlo con obras de amor, justicia y verdad.

Ayudemos para que los padres de familia sean los primeros catequistas de sus hijos, que los jóvenes ayuden a evangelizar a los otros jóvenes y que los niños sean los primeros misioneros de la Iglesia. Que con el trabajo de todos podamos tener la experiencia de reconocer a Jesús todos los domingos en nuestra comunidad y con el testimonio de todos podamos proclamar la presencia amorosa de Dios en nuestro mundo.

— Padre Fernando Torres





► Yolanda Craven and her daughter, Rebekah, and Deborah Adams and her daughter, Elizabeth, drove to Raleigh from their homes in Wilson to attend Changes and Challenges.

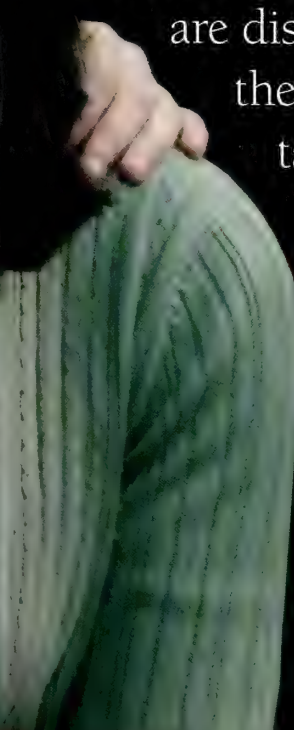






# Chastity

begins at home



**O**n a mild spring evening in a classroom at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Apex, 26 mothers and fathers are discussing one of their most important parental responsibilities: teaching their nearly adolescent children about God's plan for sex and love.

The parents are attending the first of two sessions in "Changes and Challenges," a program originated by Family Honor ([www.familyhonor.org](http://www.familyhonor.org)), a Catholic organization founded in South Carolina in 1987 to help parents and children connect on important life values, with a special emphasis on chastity and the goodness of God's gift of sexuality. St. Mary Magdalene is the second parish in the Diocese of Raleigh to invite Changes and Challenges. The first was St. Luke the Evangelist in Raleigh and in late April the team presented at St. Patrick in Fayetteville.

Lisa Roess, a parishioner at St. Michael the Archangel in Cary, leads the Raleigh team. "Changes and Challenges is

different from other chastity/abstinence programs," she explains. "To start, Family Honor brings parents and children together to learn about chastity, recognizing as the Church does that the family is the domestic church and the parents are the chief teachers in that church."

"Unlike abstinence," the program's introduction states, "chastity is a virtue (a positive habit learned over time). It's the spiritual power that frees love from selfishness and aggression." One of the presenters at the parents' evening explains, "Charity is the source and goal of all virtues. Chastity is charity applied to sexuality. Even married couples are called to express sexual desire with respect and reverence." ►





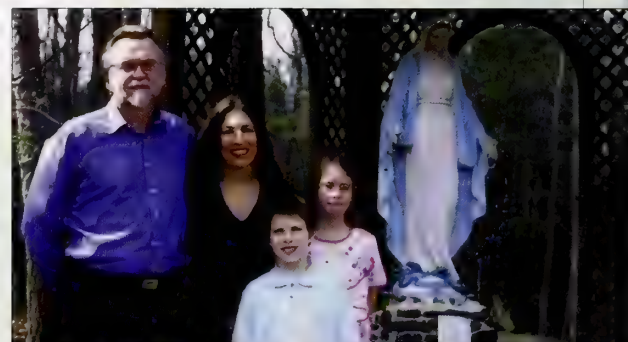
**I**n the first session, parents are encouraged about the importance of their involvement in presenting sexuality to their children in a Catholic context and in counteracting the false messages about love abounding in our society. Moms and dads may feel at times like kids tune them out, but studies show that parents who are warm, approachable and who clearly state their values have more influence than media or peers in protecting adolescents from engaging in risk-taking behaviors.

On the first night, participants learn about the developmental tasks of children, emphasizing their middle years. They discuss their own children's progress and assess their parenting styles. The team then explains what will take place in the second session, usually one week later to give parents time to consider whether to continue with their children and, if so, to prepare them.

On the second evening, parents will attend with their sixth-grade children, fathers with sons and mothers with daughters. In separate areas, the two groups will see presentations and join in discus-

sions about sexuality and chastity. They will be presented with the biological aspects of puberty, fertility and reproduction, but at the same time become familiar with the acronym SPICE and the crucial importance of seeing themselves (and recognizing others) as God does – as whole persons: Spiritual, Physical, Intellectual, Creative and Emotional. And they will learn practical tips for practicing chastity, such as choosing friends who share your

**"My daughter loved it. We made it a special mother-daughter day, went out to lunch. I think it brought us together. It was something we could share, as we share the same anatomy."**



Don and Olga Monroe, with their children, Alexander and Olga Isabel, are parishioners at St. Luke the Evangelist, Raleigh, the first parish in the diocese to host Changes and Challenges.

values, advertising the whole you (SPICE) – not just your body, and saying a prayer for chastity each day.

Although Changes and Challenges is relatively new to the Diocese of Raleigh, those families who have participated are eager to share their appreciation.

Yolanda Craven and her daughter, Rebekah, came from Wilson to attend Changes and Challenges at St. Luke's. "I really want to see this spread throughout the diocese," Yolanda says. "It's a wonderful program."

The anatomy was presented in a very specific but age-appropriate way. And everything was shown as God's plan, God's design. Something with a greater purpose. My daughter loved it. We made it a special mother-daughter day, went out to lunch. I think it



► **Olga Monroe:** "When I was learning about these things growing up, they weren't presented in the context of God's plan, and I regret that The biology was over the level for my daughter, but children ... I'm fascinated by what a creation of God they are!"

brought us together. It was something we could share, as we share the same anatomy."

Another Wilson family, Tim and Deborah McVeigh, attended with their daughter, Abby. "I knew I needed to discuss sexuality with my daughter," Deborah says, "but I didn't know how. This opened a door. Some things went over her head, but this brought us closer, so when she does have questions I think we'll have a basis for discussion. Abby will be going to public school, and I liked that Changes and Challenges presented sex in the context of marriage."

Don and Olga Monroe are parishioners at St. Luke's with a daughter and a son. "I was thankful for the program," Olga says. "When I was learning about these things growing up, they weren't presented in the context of God's plan, and I regret that. The biology was over the level for my daughter, but children... I'm fascinated by what a creation of God they are! They take what they need. I love that the Church today is really trying to help people understand not just 'You must' but 'Why?' After the parent night, I wondered if the information might be too much, but I prayed to Mary and we went. And learning about chastity was wonderful for me and my husband as well as for the kids."

Family Honor has programs that continue age-appropriate chastity education for seventh and eighth graders, and for high school students, covering topics such as homosexuality, dating and marriage. Lisa Roess says the team hopes to have the program available for seventh- and eighth-grades in this diocese in a year.

Participants say Challenges and Changes is a great starting point for communication with their youngsters about "those issues." But the program emphasizes that modeling the

**The Challenges and Changes is a great starting point for communication with their youngsters about "those issues." The program emphasizes that modeling the virtue of chastity is an ongoing endeavor.**

virtue of chastity is an ongoing endeavor.

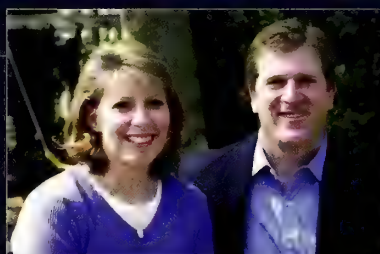
Suzie Farrell, a parishioner at Our Lady of Lourdes who attended the St. Luke sessions with her husband, Todd, and their son, Michael, found the program "very positive. It's important to bring Michael along in an understanding of chastity before the hormones kick in. But you've got to keep talking and explaining about dating, respect and so on. It's not a one-time shot."



### Chastity in Marriage?

►► In 20 years of practicing Natural Family Planning (NFP) and 10 years of teaching it, Tim and Jeanne Thelen have learned that it's much more than a way to be aware of a woman's fertility cycles. As members of The Couple to Couple League International ([www.ccli.org](http://www.ccli.org)), they instruct couples in the Sympto-Thermal Method of NFP, which relies on the observation of three useful fertility signs in a woman. Couples learn to observe, record, and interpret these signs with a high degree of accuracy. In fact, studies have shown this method to be 99% effective in indicating the times when conception is possible.

When you talk with Jeanne about NFP, though, the emphasis is less on biology than on marriage, and the virtue of marital chastity. "Tim and I were engaged in college," Jeanne says, "and we had a very clear idea of the chastity our faith called us to as single people. But I realized I'd never been taught about the way the Church viewed chastity for married couples. Did it mean that suddenly anything goes? No, the Church says that even after marriage you are called to a certain level of... temperance. And NFP enhances that mutual awareness and respect, because there need to be times of abstinence, other ways of showing affection. And you realize together the really amazing power of sexuality."



*Together is an important word. "One special thing about NFP is that it's a method that involves the couple," Jeanne explains. "Artificial*

contraception usually involves just one person or the other. And we talk to many couples who are in deep trouble with their sexuality because they aren't connected as a couple to what they're doing. You can get to a place where one spouse is just a vehicle for the physical satisfaction of the other. My husband likes to say when he's instructing men that marital chastity means transforming the purely physical drive into one of generosity and an awareness of the gift of sexuality."

There are several misconceptions about NFP. For example, it's not the same as the rhythm method, which did not account for cycle irregularity. Another misconception Jeanne sees is "about the Church's motive in its teachings about birth control. People sometimes see them as negative or oppressive, when in fact they are about understanding who we are as human beings and as God's creations. John Paul II's Theology of the Body was such a gift to couples and to our ministry in showing how we narrow and limit sexuality to an act, when in fact it's integral to all we are."

Couple to Couple NFP instruction is done in a classroom format. There are four sessions spaced a month apart, with help as needed in between, and class sizes have ranged, Jeanne says, from five couples to 20. "I hope that couples who are just thinking about NFP, for whatever reason, won't be put off by thinking it's too big a commitment of time or money (usually \$75)," Jeanne says. "Come to class and see what it's all about. There's no obligation." Classes are advertised in parish bulletins, or information on upcoming classes is available from Linda Bedo, Diocesan Director of Marriage preparation and Enrichment, at 919.821.9753.



**U**na noche de primavera, en un salón de clase en la Parroquia de St. Mary Magdalene en Apex, 26 padres y madres hablan sobre una de sus responsabilidades más importantes como padres de familia: enseñarles a sus hijos adolescentes cuál es el plan de Dios con relación al amor y al sexo.

Los padres de familia están asistiendo a la primera de las dos sesiones de un programa que se llama "Changes and Challenges" (Cambios y Retos) creado por una organización católica llamada Honor de Familia ([www.familyhonor.org](http://www.familyhonor.org)). Esta organización se fundó en Carolina del Sur en 1987, para ayudar a los padres de familia y a los hijos a conectarse con los valores más importantes de la vida, dándole un énfasis especial a la castidad y a la bondad de la sexualidad como don de Dios. St. Mary Magdalene es la segunda parroquia de la Diócesis de Raleigh que ha hecho una invitación a este programa. El primero se hizo en St. Luke the Evangelist en Raleigh y a finales de Abril, el equipo se presentó en St. Patrick en Fayetteville.

Lisa Roess, una feligresa de St. Michael the Arcángel en Cary dirige el equipo de Raleigh. Ella nos explica que el "programa Cambios y Retos es diferente de otros programas de castidad y abstinencia. Para comenzar, la organización Family Honor reúne a los padres de familia y a los hijos "para que entiendan qué es la castidad, reconociendo como lo hace la Iglesia, que la familia es la Iglesia Doméstica y que los padres de familia son sus maestros principales".

"A diferencia de la abstinencia, el programa dice que la castidad es una virtud (un hábito positivo que se aprende con el tiempo). Es la fuerza espiritual que libera al amor del egoísmo y la agresión." Uno de los presentadores en la reunión de padres explica lo siguiente: "La caridad es la fuente y la meta de todas las virtudes. La Castidad es la caridad aplicada a la sexualidad. Aun las parejas casadas deben expresar el deseo sexual con

respeto y reverencia."

Durante la primera sesión se les enseña a los padres de familia lo importante que es que ellos presenten a sus hijos la sexualidad en un contexto católico y que contrarresten los abundantes mensajes falsos que hay sobre el amor en nuestra sociedad. Las madres o los padres pueden sentir a veces que sus hijos los dejan por fuera, pero los estudios demuestran que los padres que son cálidos, asequibles y que establecen claramente sus valores, tienen más influencia que los medios de comunicación o los compañeros, al proteger a los adolescentes de participar en actos en los que se toman riesgos.

Durante la primera noche, los participantes aprenden sobre las etapas de desarrollo de los niños haciendo énfasis en sus años adolescentes. Ellos hablan sobre los progresos de sus propios hijos y analizan sus estilos como padres. El equipo que dirige el programa luego explica lo que ocurrirá en la segunda sesión, la cual por lo general se hace una semana después para darles tiempo a los padres para que consideren si desean continuar con sus hijos y si es así, prepararlos.

La segunda noche, los padres de familia asistirán con sus hijos de sexto grado, los padres con los hijos y las madres con las hijas. En lugares separados, los dos grupos verán presentaciones y dialogarán sobre la sexualidad y la castidad. Se les presentarán los aspectos biológicos de la pubertad, la fertilidad y la reproducción, a la vez que se familiarizarán con el acrónimo SPICE y la importancia crucial de que se vean ellos mismos



Cambios y retos: Un programa donde juntos, padres e hijos aprenden sobre sexo, amor y sobre el Plan de Dios.

La castidad comienza en **Ca**

(y a otros) como Dios lo hace, como personas integrales, espirituales, físicas, intelectuales, creativas y emocionales. También se les dan consejos prácticos para practicar la castidad, como por ejemplo, escoger a los amigos que comparten tus valores, promover todo el concepto de SPICE y no solo el cuerpo, y orar por la castidad todos los días.

Aunque el programa Changes and Challenges es relativamente nuevo en la Diócesis de Raleigh, las familias que han participado están ansiosos de compartir su experiencia.

Yolanda Craven y su hija Rebeca vinieron desde Wilson para asistir al programa que se hizo en St. Luke. Ella nos dijo lo siguiente: "Desearía que este programa se disemine por toda la Diócesis. Es un programa maravilloso. La parte sobre anatomía fue presentada de una manera muy específica pero apropiada a la edad. Todo fue presentado de acuerdo al Plan de Dios, al designio de Dios. Como algo con un propósito mayor. A mi hija le encantó. Hicimos de esto un día especial madre-hija, fuimos a almorzar y creo que nos ha unido. Esto era algo que podíamos compartir, como también compartimos la misma anatomía."

Otra familia de Wilson, Tim and Deborah McVeigh, también asistieron con su hija Abby. Deborah nos



sa

dijo: "Sabía que tenía que hablar sobre sexualidad con mi hija pero no sabía cómo hacerlo. Esto abrió la puerta. Algunas cosas estaban por encima de su nivel pero esta experiencia nos ha unido tanto que ahora cuando ella tenga una pregunta, creo que ya tenemos una base para dialogar. Abby irá a la escuela pública. Me gustó como el programa Changes y Challenges presentó el sexo dentro del contexto del matrimonio."

Don y Olga Monroe son feligreses de la parroquia de St. Luke y tienen un hijo y una hija. Olga nos expresó cómo estaba de agradecida con el programa. "Cuando yo aprendí sobre estas cosas, no me fueron presentadas en el contexto del Plan de Dios y lo siento. El tema de biología estaba un poco por encima del nivel de mi hija pero me sorprende de la creación tan maravillosa de los niños. Ellos toman lo que necesitan. Me encanta que la Iglesia esté tratando de ayudar a las personas a entender no sólo lo que deben hacer, sino también el por qué. Después de la noche para padres estuve pensando si la información sería demasiada para mi hija, pero le recé a la Virgen María y fuimos.

También fue maravilloso para que mi esposo, mis hijos y yo aprendiéramos sobre la castidad.

El programa Family Honor tiene cursos que tratan la educación sobre la castidad de acuerdo a las edades, para aquellos que están en séptimo y octavo grado y para estudiantes en la secundaria. Cubre temas como la homosexualidad, el noviazgo y el matrimonio. Lisa Roess dice que el próximo año el equipo espera tener en la Diócesis el programa para los que están en séptimo y octavo grado.

Los participantes dicen que Challenges and Changes es un excelente punto de partida para comunicarse con los jóvenes sobre dichos temas. El programa sin embargo enfatiza que moldear la virtud de la castidad es un trabajo continuo.

Suzie Farell, una feligrés de la parroquia de Our lady of Lourdes, que asistió a las sesiones en St. Luke con su esposo Todd y su hijo Michael, encontró que el programa fue muy positivo. "Es muy importante que Michael tenga un entendimiento de lo que es la castidad antes que las hormonas se disparen. Pero debemos continuar hablándole y explicándole sobre el noviazgo, el respeto y otros temas.

## ¿Castidad en el matrimonio?

►► En los veinte años que llevan practicando la Planificación Natural de la Familia (PNF) y los diez años que llevan enseñando sobre el tema, Tim y Jeanne Thelen han aprendido que eso es más que enseñar sobre el ciclo de fertilidad de la mujer. Como miembros de La Liga de Pareja a Pareja a nivel internacional, ([www.planificacionfamiliar.net](http://www.planificacionfamiliar.net)), ellos instruyen a las parejas en el Método Sintotérmico de la Planificación Natural de la Familia, el cual se basa en la observación de tres señales de fertilidad en la mujer. Las parejas aprenden a observar, registrar e interpretar estos signos con un alto nivel de precisión. De hecho, los estudios indican que este método es 99% efectivo para indicar el momento en que la concepción es posible.

Al hablar con Jeanne sobre PNF, vemos que el énfasis no está en la biología sino más en el matrimonio y en la virtud de la castidad. "Tim y yo nos comprometimos cuando estábamos en la universidad y teníamos una idea muy clara sobre lo que nuestra fe nos decía acerca de la castidad en las parejas solteras. Pero me di cuenta que nunca se me había enseñado sobre la forma como la Iglesia veía la castidad entre las parejas casadas. ¿Querría esto decir que de pronto todo era válido? No, la iglesia dice que aun después del matrimonio estamos llamados a guardar cierta moderación. Y la PNF resalta ésa conocimiento y respeto mutuo, porque debe haber momentos de abstinencia y otras formas para expresar el afecto. Y entonces descubren juntos el maravilloso poder de la sexualidad."

La palabra Juntos es muy importante. Jeanne nos explica que "Lo especial de PNF es que es un método que involucra a la pareja. La planificación artificial usualmente involucra a una persona o a la otra. Hablamos con muchas parejas que tienen graves problemas con su sexualidad porque no están unidas como pareja en lo que hacen. Se puede llegar al lugar en el que uno de los cónyuges es simplemente la forma como el otro obtiene su

satisfacción física. Cuando mi esposo da la instrucción a los hombres, a él le gusta decir que la castidad marital significa transformar ese impulso puramente físico en uno de generosidad y reconocimiento del don de la sexualidad."

Existen varios conceptos equivocados sobre la PNF. No es lo mismo que el método del ritmo en el que no se tomaba en cuenta la irregularidad del ciclo. Otra equivocación es "el motivo que la Iglesia tiene en sus enseñanzas sobre el control de la natalidad. La gente las ve a veces como negativas u opresivas cuando en realidad tratan sobre el entendimiento de que somos seres humanos y somos también una creación de Dios. La Teología del Cuerpo que el Papa Juan Pablo II escribió, fue un don para las parejas y para nuestro ministerio, al mostrar cómo definimos y limitamos la sexualidad a un acto, cuando en realidad es integral a todo lo que somos."

La instrucción sobre la Planificación Natural de la Liga de Pareja a Pareja se lleva a cabo en un salón de clase. Hay cuatro sesiones, una cada mes y si se necesita, hay asistencia en medio de las sesiones. El tamaño de los grupos varía y puede ser de cinco parejas hasta veinte. Espero que las parejas que estén pensando en la Planificación Natural no piensen que es un compromiso demasiado grande en tiempo y en dinero. (Usualmente cuesta \$75). Vengan a la clase y vean de qué se trata sin ningún compromiso." Las clases se anuncian en los boletines parroquiales. También se puede obtener información sobre los próximos cursos con Linda Bedo, Directora Diocesana de Preparación Matrimonial y Enriquecimiento, en el teléfono 919.821.9753.



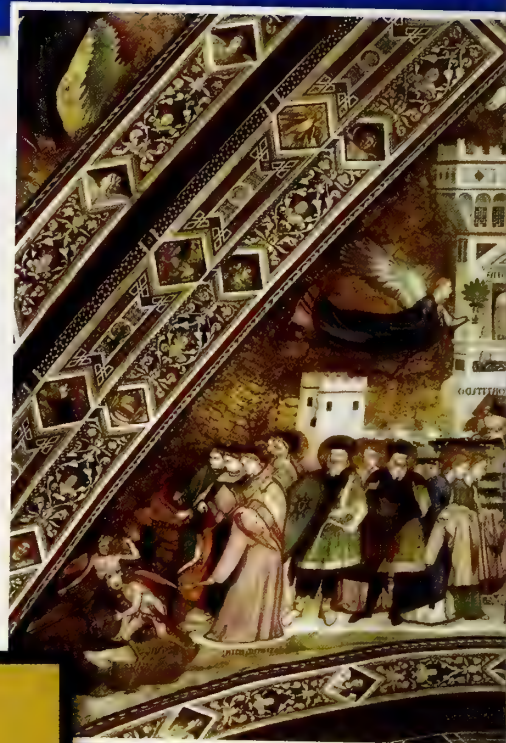


¿A menudo escucho que las palabras **casto** y **célibe** se usan como si fueran lo mismo, pero creo que no lo son. ¿Podrían ustedes explicar la diferencia?

**C**astidad y celibato no son lo mismo. Si usted es casado usted está llamado a ser casto. Si usted es soltero usted está llamado a ser casto. Si usted es célibe, usted está llamado a ser casto. La castidad es una virtud que estamos llamados a abrazar. De acuerdo a la Enciclopedia del Catolicismo, la castidad "es la virtud que busca la

La castidad implica un aprendizaje del dominio de sí, que es una pedagogía de la libertad humana.

La alternativa es clara: o el hombre controla sus pasiones y obtiene la paz, o se deja dominar por ellas y se hace desgraciado (cf Si 1, 22). 'La dignidad del hombre requiere, en efecto, que actúe según una elección consciente y libre, es decir, movido e inducido personalmente desde dentro y no



## Ya que usted lo pregunta...

Este mes con el Padre David McBriar, O.F.M.

integración del verdadero significado de la sexualidad humana y la intimidad esté uno casado o no." El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica define a la castidad como una virtud dentro del marco que integra nuestra sexualidad, la integración de nuestro cuerpo y nuestra alma. La castidad no es la ausencia de intimidad sexual entre las parejas casadas. La intimidad sexual de la pareja casada es una expresión del verdadero amor que se han prometido.

La castidad es una virtud que con la gracia de Dios uno aprende y debe practicar a lo largo de la vida. La persona humana es un ser corporal y espiritual. La virtud de la castidad involucra la integración de los dones del cuerpo y del espíritu. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica dice lo siguiente:

*bajo la presión de un ciego impulso interior o de la mera coacción externa. El hombre logra esta dignidad cuando, liberándose de toda esclavitud de las pasiones, persigue su fin en la libre elección del bien y se procura con eficacia y habilidad los medios adecuados.' (CCC 2339)*

Y se debe plantear claramente que es la esclavitud hacia la pasión y no la pasión misma la que es destructiva. Nuestra pasión por la comida, por el amor, por la paz, por la dignidad humana y por la intimidad sexual es buena. Es un don de Dios. Pero es cuando nuestras pasiones se salen de control, que nos roban nuestra intimidad y nuestra libertad. Hay un pasaje importante en uno de los diálogos de Platón, "el Faedro." En él, Platón describe el alma humana como un cochero que trata de controlar dos caballos. Uno quiere salir corriendo fuera de control. El otro es bueno y

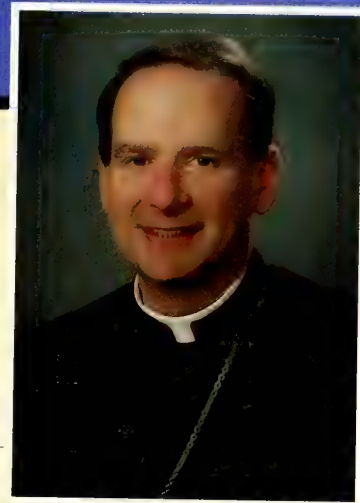
afable. El cochero tiene el reto de controlar uno de los caballos y balancear su pasión con el espíritu del caballo más dócil. Cuando los dos trabajan juntos, es cuando el alma humana alcanza su meta. Lo mismo sucede con nuestra sexualidad. Debemos aprender a controlar, no a ahogar ni eliminar nuestra pasión por la satisfacción sexual. Esto lo hacemos escuchando nuestra conciencia, iluminada por la gracia de Dios y las enseñanzas de nuestra Iglesia. De esta manera ocurrirá la integración y conoceremos la libertad que viene de este balance.

El celibato por otro lado significa que un hombre o una mujer, escogen abstenerse del matrimonio y de la actividad sexual. El celibato es un don que Dios nos da libremente, y para poder vivirlo bien, debe aceptarse libremente. La persona que acepta el celibato no renuncia a su sexualidad. Más bien, él o ella la aumentan, la ponen dentro del horizonte de servir a la familia humana. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica dice lo siguiente acerca del celibato:



## La castidad: un reflejo del amor de Dios

**E**ste mes la revista *NC Catholics* trata sobre la virtud de la castidad. Esta es una virtud importante que debemos entender e integrar a nuestro diario vivir porque trata uno de los aspectos más poderosos de nuestra humanidad: la sexualidad.



Cristo es el centro de toda vida cristiana. El vínculo con Él, ocupa el primer lugar entre todos los demás vínculos, familiares o sociales. Desde los comienzos de la Iglesia ha habido hombres y mujeres que han renunciado al gran bien del matrimonio para seguir al Cordero dondequiera que vaya, para ocuparse de las cosas del Señor, para tratar de agradarle, para ir al encuentro del Esposo que viene. Cristo mismo invitó a algunos a seguirle en este modo de vida del que Él es el modelo: Hay eunucos que nacieron así del seno materno, y hay eunucos hechos por los hombres, y hay eunucos que se hicieron tales a sí mismos por el Reino de los Cielos. Quien pueda entender, que entienda. (CCC 1618)

La castidad es "la virtud que busca la integración del verdadero significado de la sexualidad humana y de la intimidad, mientras se esté casado o no." El celibato es un don de Dios para vivir sin un compañero íntimo y renunciar a la actividad sexual para buscar el Reino de Dios, dedicándose totalmente a la vida de servicio de la familia humana. ☪

— Padre David McBriar, O.F.M.

Todos deseamos amar y ser amados. Los católicos creemos que el amor humano siempre debe buscar ser una expresión del amor divino, ya que éste es el ejemplo que Jesús nos dio. El amor entre dos personas, el de una persona hacia los demás y aún en última instancia el de dos enemigos, se supone que sea una expresión de amor divino.

Todos deseamos amar y ser amados. El amor humano también debe buscar ser expresión del amor divino. Debido a que somos seres sexuales, la virtud de la castidad guía la manera como ordenamos estos tres aspectos de nuestras vidas correctamente y de acuerdo al estado en que estemos en la vida.

Es una virtud importante porque dentro de nosotros existe un aspecto de la naturaleza humana que puede distorsionar el entendimiento correcto del amor, convirtiendo a las personas en objetos usados solo para gratificación. Además, vivimos en una cultura que permanente busca erradicar cualquier imagen de ética sexual cristiana y en especial la castidad. En nuestra sociedad contemporánea muchas personas, especialmente los jóvenes, están siendo inducidos a seguir la cultura secular y la voluntad del hombre apartado de la fe en lugar de la voz y la voluntad de Dios. Las consecuencias de esto nos rodean por todos lados: niveles altísimos de abortos, adicción a la pornografía, el sexo antes del matrimonio entre los jóvenes cada vez mas jóvenes, la cohabitación entre los jóvenes adultos, la contracepción artificial, la infidelidad

matrimonial, el abuso sexual, etc.

La Iglesia quiere que evitemos estas consecuencias y que vivamos de acuerdo a como Dios nos lo indica. Esta es una de las razones por la cuales nos hacemos miembros de la Iglesia. La Iglesia que estableció Jesús, quien es el Hijo de Dios, nos enseña cómo amar y ser amados como seres sexuales de acuerdo a la voluntad de Dios. La formación en la virtud de la castidad nos ayuda a amar y ser amados de la forma correcta. Bien vivida, la castidad integra la dimensión espiritual de una persona con su cuerpo. Practicar la castidad también sana la separación que hay entre el amor y el sexo.

¿Por qué es todo esto importante? El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica nos da la clave: en Jesucristo "Dios revela su secreto más íntimo; Él mismo es una eterna comunicación de amor: Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo, y (este lo enfatizo yo) nos ha destinado a participar en Él". (CCC#221).

Creemos que fuimos creados para ser parte del amor perfecto, o sea la Santa Trinidad, para siempre. La manera como vivimos nuestras vidas en la tierra, afecta nuestra existencia en este intercambio de amor eterno. Por esta razón es tan importante cultivar la virtud de la castidad.

Que la Virgen María, modelo de castidad, nos inspire a seguir su ejemplo y nos ayude en nuestra jornada hacia el intercambio de amor eterno.

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh



romance



Who's the giver here?

►► Here's an important question to ask yourself: "Am I more of a giver or a taker?" The amount of sustained romance and success in your marriage may depend on your answer. The healthiest marriages are the ones where both spouses are givers.



**M**ike and Cyndi have been planning a vacation to Hawaii for a year. But they have very different ideas about what they want to do when they get there.

## When we're on vacation, I want to see all the sights!

he says

**Mike says:** Cyndi and I have always dreamed of going to Hawaii – the warm breezes, the palm trees, the surf. And now we're finally getting our chance. However, I guess we didn't really talk about why it was we wanted to go. I want to hike up to the volcanoes – really experience the islands. Cyndi doesn't want to do anything except sit on the beach!

## I want to sit on the beach!

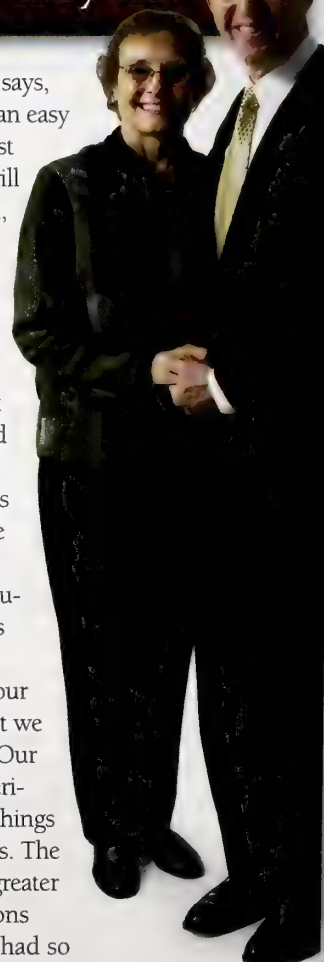
she says

**Cyndi says:** When I think of Hawaii, I think of orchids and romantic walks on the beach. I want to lie in the sand all day and soak up the sun. This is the first vacation we've taken in years where it's just the two of us – no kids, no pets, no responsibilities. I'm afraid that if we follow Mike's schedule, we're going to come back more tired than before we went. When I go on vacation, I really want to "vacate."

## He said She said what do they do?

experts say

Jo Anne says, "This is an easy one – just tell him which beach you will be on!" I, on the other hand, believe a different approach may be needed so that both may enjoy the *aloha* spirit. Clearly, Mike identified the central issue when he said, "I guess we didn't really talk about why it was we wanted to go ..." This is not an unusual situation when dreams are involved. No two people are going to "dream" identically. We are unique individuals first and married couples second. Simply because we are "two becoming one" in our marriage does not mean that we see things in the same way. Our eyes are filtered by our experiences and therefore we see things mostly as unique individuals. The longer we are married, the greater chance we have of our visions merging, because we have had so

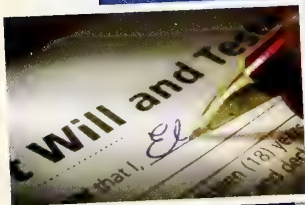


money



We've all got to go sometime

►► Although we may avoid thinking about death, it's important to think about those we would leave behind. If you haven't appointed a guardian for your children and provided for them financially, make a will or trust now!





many shared experiences.

Our first recommendation is for Mike and Cyndi to communicate realistically, share feelings with each other and work toward a compromise. By nature, vacations are limited by time, so you cannot expect to fulfill every wish on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure. The initial shared dream of going to Hawaii is now a close reality. Now what? First, sit down together and begin the planning process by making the easy decisions first: What flight? What hotel? How long are we going to stay? Where will we eat? Do we rent a car?

After answering these "easy" questions, we recommend that Mike and Cyndi ask four more questions: Why is it important for us as a couple to go to Hawaii? How does it make me feel to help you satisfy your dream? How will our marriage relationship be strengthened by going to Hawaii at this time? Is this what we believe God wants us to do?

An easy way to accomplish this is for Mike and Cyndi to use old-fashioned pencil and paper. Divide the paper into two columns labeled "Mike" and "Cyndi." On the left side, write the question and place the answers under each person's column. Where both answers match, an agreement is reached and the total plan is getting closer to satisfying each other's needs, wants and desires. Where both have different ideas and answers, list the pros and cons of each answer, then discuss the results. If Mike and Cyndi focus on meeting each other's needs and not their own, they will be surprised with the results. They will discover a little-known fact that their individual needs will be met beyond their expectations if they focus on their spouse's wants and desires. The results become a gift and not an imposed obligation.

## communication



## What's good about us?

►► When we talk about communication in marriage, we often seem to focus on problems and how to handle them. Take a few minutes to look at the bright side — sit down to talk about what is working in your marriage, what both of you are doing right. Positive reinforcement can keep the good times rolling!

## time



## It's about time ...!

►► Share a prayer together. There is recent empirical data that indicates, "A family that prays together stays together." Divorce rates for couples who regularly pray out loud together (more than just at meal times) is only .01 percent (one couple in a thousand) compared to one couple in two for all first marriages in the United States.

## "I don't want to go to Mass"

### What do you say when your child doesn't want any part of church?



►► **As parents, how do we deal with adolescents who are distancing themselves from the church?**

**W**hen I was 11, Msgr. Galvin spotted me wandering around the church courtyard — a sorrowful child in a crowd of people who had just attended services for my grandma. His suggestion that we head into the rectory for a quick piece of cake was just the distraction I needed. Rectories and convents were mysterious worlds whispered about on our school playground. Monsignor's kind words shared over a treat helped my healing process begin.

In recent years, when I described my visit to the rectory, faces grow somber until listeners realize they are hearing a simple tale of a compassionate priest. But the initial tension reveals underlying concerns about those who found abuse rather than healing through the church, and those whose stories were kept in the shadows. As our children mature and confront these issues, some become disillusioned. Issues involving the ordination of women and married men are challenging to others. As parents, how do we deal with adolescents who distance themselves from the church?

#### Make decisions about church attendance.

►► **Set household expectations for church attendance rather than having weekly battles.** How flexible are your family's options? Is an evening Mass a possibility? Perhaps late Saturday evenings and a sleep-deprived teen are contributing to the problem. Is there a Catholic friend who could be picked up on the way to church and brought home for dinner?

#### Put your faith into action.

►► **If your church sponsors meals for the homeless, a food cupboard or other service opportunity, consider becoming involved as a family.**

Allowing God to use their hands to benefit others helps adolescents see the benefit of working in the community.

#### Encourage prayer despite the disillusionment.

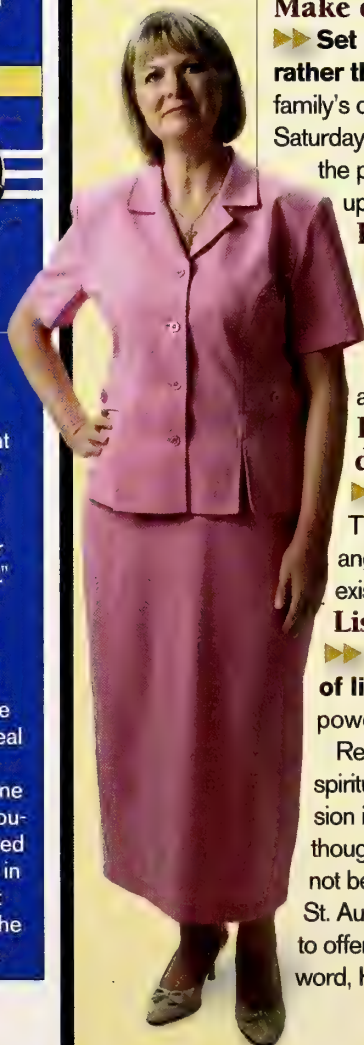
►► **Relationships with God are active and real.**

That means that all emotions can be shared, including anger about what happens within the church. Problems exist, and all our feelings can be shared in prayer.

#### Listen without defensiveness.

►► **A mature faith confronts the shadowy side of life as well as the joy.** Try not to be drawn into a power struggle or to become defensive.

Remember that, as concerned as you are about the spiritual well-being of your children, God's tender compassion is even greater. Many priests who knew St. Monica thought that her constant prayers for her pagan son would not be answered in the way she hoped. Yet after 17 years, St. Augustine converted to Catholicism. Trust God to continue to offer opportunities for your children to be nourished by His word, His body and His blood. — Dr. Cathleen McGreal







likeness means we want to make ourselves a gift to God and others. The virtue of chastity governs our sexual desire and helps integrate those desires within the human person so that we can offer ourselves to God and others in a good and wholesome way.

Some want to compartmentalize their sexual behavior and separate it from their religious behavior and life with God. Chastity brings an integration of sexual desires and a single-heartedness to a person. There is no divorce between loving God, loving neighbor, loving family members, loving spouse or loving self. In a sex-crazed culture, this aspect of chastity is overlooked. Some see chastity as only a “no” to sex. It is often seen as being priggish or prudish in a puritanical sense.

But chastity helps us truly love as we are loved by God. Sexual desire especially needs to come un-

der the gentle mastery of the Holy Spirit and human reason. When we fail in this area, there can be painful and dire consequences. Some have said that we act more like animals

# Chastity

What the birds and bees and even elephants can teach us!

**I** remember the first time I heard a talk about sex. Our teacher announced, “Today we are going to talk about the birds and the bees.” The guys went to one class and the girls to another. All through the class I kept wondering, “What do birds and bees have to do with this?”

Of course, after much thought, I soon realized what they meant. God knit sex into the fabric of creation. “Be fertile and multiply,” God said to all creatures. “Fill the earth and subdue it.” (Gen 1:28)

Sometimes you would think the world only heard that and nothing else the Lord said. Our culture is saturated with sexual images. It is true and important to remember that God “looked at all he had made and found it very good.” Sex included! None of us would be here without it.

God intended sex, like all human actions, to be

integrated into the whole human person. God has made us in some ways like other animals; we have instincts and physical characteristics that help us survive and thrive on the earth. We share many common traits. We must remember, however, we are not made in their image and likeness, but rather in the image and likeness of God.

God blesses us with reason and graces our souls with virtues that take the reins of our physical passions, instincts and desires – and brings our behavior to a perfection that leads to God. That includes sexual behavior. A part of being made in God’s image and

and beasts than human beings. Actually, animals and beasts may be acting much better, for they do what they do because of instinct. We do what we do by choice.

Speaking of animals, there are a number of things we can learn from animals about chaste living. Back to the birds and bees (and elephants)!

For example, quite a few bird species are monogamous. Penguins often take only one mate in a lifetime – and engage in the mating act only once a year!

And what about the bees? St. Francis de Sales used an image that can be useful in thinking about the reward of chaste





behavior. Chaste people are like honey bees in that they make the world sweet. “Honey” is the end result of a virtuous life. If we live a life of chastity, and work at it, we will have plenty of honey in our lives now and certainly at the end! Another image using honey was more negative, looking at the consequences of disregarding chastity. He pointed out that bees, when they are not careful, can get caught in their own honey. It can cover their wings and bodies and, in some cases, they don’t escape. Killed by too much honey.

Well, what about the elephants? OK, believe it or not, I was talking to a priest who is a missionary of St. Francis de Sales. Father Kurian grew up in India and lived in Africa for many years. He liked the fact that St. Francis de Sales used the example set by elephants to teach about chastity:

*“The elephant is not only a huge beast, but the most dignified and most intelligent animal which lives on earth. I wish to tell you an instance of its excellence. It never changes its mate and loves tenderly the one it has chosen. However, it does not mate with it except every third year, and that for five days only, and so secretly that it is not seen doing the act. Nevertheless, it is seen on the sixth day on which, before anything else, it goes straight to the river. There it washes completely its whole body without any wish to return to the flock before it is purified. Are not these beautiful and chaste characteristics of such an animal an invitation to the married?”*

(Introduction to the Devout Life, ch. 39 par. 7)

After picking myself up off the floor from laughter, I was further moved to read more from St. Francis de Sales, who is a doctor of the church by the way. I would recommend reading his book, *Introduction to the Devout Life*. It is filled with heavenly wisdom! Even if the biology is a little off in places, his theology and practical insights are dead on!

– Father Bill Ashbaugh

## Spiritual Exercise

### 6 ways to strengthen chastity

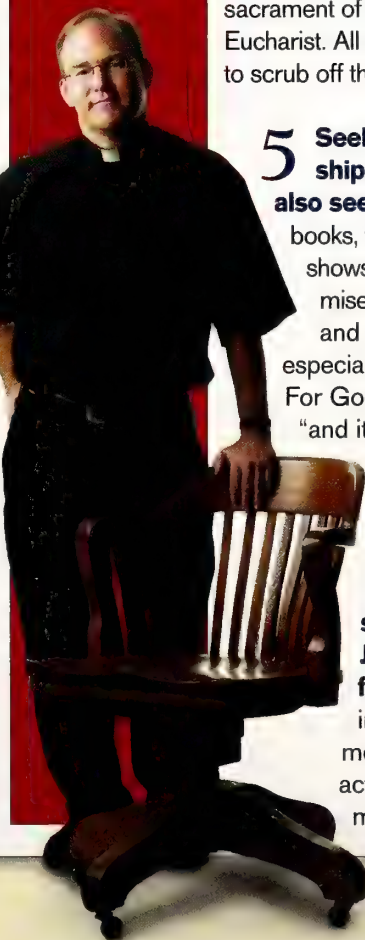
**1 Pray.** Devotion to God will lead to greater purity and greater chastity. Read Psalm 51. King David may have written this after he committed the sins of adultery and murder, which followed his sin of lust for Bathsheba. His sexual desires were out of control. God’s love is what we truly desire, not the lust of the body. Sexual integration recognizes that the only true and lasting union is with God. That relation is abundantly fertile. As the heart grows in love for God, one desires God more and longs for all that God desires for the soul. God desires us to be pure, so that one is more able to see the beauty of God reflected in one’s own soul.

**2 In prayer, ask for chastity.** Pray for a desire to be chaste and pure of heart, free of lust. You cannot gain the gift if there is no desire for the gift within you.

**3 Guard against curiosity!** Priests hear everything under the sun in the confessional. In my pastoral experience, curiosity has killed the cat on many occasions. What is on this TV channel? What is on this Web site? What will happen if I click open this e-mail? Most of the time people do know what will happen, but curiosity drives them on. “The young are apt to imagine that of which they are ignorant to be wondrous sweet, and as the foolish moth hovers around a light, and, persisting in coming too near, perishes in its inquisitive folly, so they perish through their unwise approach to forbidden pleasures.” (Introduction to the Devout Life)



Impurity is like tar on the soul, not dirt. Dirt comes off pretty fast. Tar sticks!



**4 Be quick to turn away from anything that would lead to impurity.** Impurity can grow quickly! It is easier to turn away quickly from the temptation than to heal the wound and clean one who is already immersed in the tar. Impurity is like tar on the soul, not dirt. Dirt comes off pretty fast. Tar sticks! To get it off takes stronger cleansers – such as fasting, prayer, penance, the sacrament of reconciliation, the Eucharist. All are powerful means to scrub off the tar of impurity.

**5 Seek out good friendships with people who also seek purity.** Read good books, watch movies and TV shows that will not compromise the virtue. Ponder and read holy things, especially the Word of God. For God’s Word is pure, “and it will make those pure who study it.” (St Francis de Sales)

**6 Especially and always stay close to Jesus Christ crucified,** both spiritually in your thoughts and meditations – and actually in holy Communion.



## Tar Heel Apostle closer to canonization

► Father Thomas Frederick Price, the first native-born Catholic diocesan priest in North Carolina, has moved one step closer to canonization. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge received notification that Father Price's cause of canonization will be introduced at the diocesan level as the first step in his process of canonization.



Price was born in 1860 in Wilmington, N.C. His parents were converts to the Catholic faith. As a youth, Price served Mass for Bishop James Gibbons, newly appointed first vicar apostolic of North Carolina, and often accompanied him on special trips throughout the Vicariate.

When Price felt a call to the priesthood, he confided his interest to his parish priest and arrangements were made for him to enter St. Charles Seminary in Maryland in August 1876. En route to the seminary by ship, Price narrowly escaped death in the shipwreck of the *Rebecca Clyde*. He attributed his survival to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. After a year at home, he entered the seminary. Ordained in 1886, he was assigned to missionary work in eastern North

Carolina. In less than a year, however, he was appointed as pastor of a group of Catholics near Asheville.

The missionary grew restless in one place. A few years later, he obtained permission to begin a statewide evangelization program. Part of his plan involved editing and publishing a magazine, *Truth*, which debuted in 1897. In 1898, he established the Nazareth Orphanage, near Raleigh, to help and, he hoped, evangelize the needy. The orphanage also served as a missionary training center for the entire state.

As time passed, Price began to turn his attention to foreign missions. In 1910, he and Father James Walsh of Boston began exploring the development of a missionary seminary that was granted approval by Pope Pius X in 1911. Their dream developed into the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America, known as Maryknoll.

On Sept. 12, 1919, Price died in Hong Kong as a result of

a burst appendix. Today, his remains together with those of Bishop James A. Walsh, are interred in the crypt below the Maryknoll Seminary Chapel in New York. By Price's arrangement, however, his heart was buried in Nevers, France, in the crypt of St. Bernadette of Lourdes, to whom Price had a special devotion and about whom he wrote two books.

The postulators of the Cause for Sainthood for Father Price are seeking witnesses: people who knew Father Price or revere him; people who have prayed asking his intercession or received favors or healing through those prayers; and people with letters or other unique documents regarding Father Price. If you think you might be a witness, look for a questionnaire on the Diocese of Raleigh web site ([www.dioceseofraleigh.org/fatherprice](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/fatherprice)) or phone Father Michael P. Walsh, MM, Vice-Postulator for the Cause, at 914.941.7636.

### STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

These schools have a racially non-discriminatory policy as to students in that the schools admit students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin or sex to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities to students at the schools.

These schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin or sex in administration of educational policies, admissions, and athletics and other school-administered programs.

Catholic Schools Office  
The Catholic Center  
715 Nazareth Street  
Raleigh, NC 27606-2187  
(919) 821-9749

**Dr. Michael J. Fedewa**  
Superintendent of Schools

Revised 3-29-2007

### SCHOOLS

Annunciation Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Havelock  
Blessed Sacrament Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Burlington  
Cardinal Gibbons High School (9-12), Raleigh  
Cathedral Elementary School (Pre-K-8), Raleigh  
The Franciscan School (K-8), Raleigh  
Immaculata Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Durham  
Infant of Prague Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Jacksonville  
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School (K-8), Raleigh  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School (Pre-K-5), Rocky Mount  
Pope John Paul II Catholic School (Pre-K-5), Southern Pines  
St. Ann Catholic School (K-8), Fayetteville  
St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School (Pre-K-6), Wake Forest  
St. Egbert Catholic School (K-5), Morehead City  
St. Mark Catholic School (K-8), Wilmington  
St. Mary Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Goldsboro  
St. Mary Catholic School (K-8), Wilmington  
St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Apex  
St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Cary  
St. Paul Education Center (Pre-K-8), New Bern  
St. Patrick Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Fayetteville  
St. Peter Catholic School (K-8), Greenville  
St. Raphael Catholic School (K-8), Raleigh  
St. Therese Catholic School (Pre-K-5), Wilson  
St. Thomas More Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Chapel Hill

### EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTERS

Sacred Heart ECC (Pre-K), Pinehurst  
St. Andrew ECC (Pre-K), Apex  
St. Catherine ECC (Pre-K), Wake Forest  
St. Francis of Assisi ECLC Pre-K, Raleigh  
St. Joseph Catholic Pre-School (Pre-K), Raleigh  
St. Mark Montessori Pre-School (Pre-K), Wilmington  
St. Mary CDC (Pre-K), Garner  
St. Michael ECC (Pre-K&K), Cary  
St. Raphael ECC (Pre-K), Raleigh



## "Our faith is an anchor"

### A Sanford couple talks about 51 years of marriage

**W**hen Bishop Burbidge celebrates Mass this month for married couples in the diocese, Bill and Pat Kracker will be there. As part of the special event to recognize the vocation of married life, the bishop has invited couples celebrating 25, 50 or more years of marriage to Our Lady of Lourdes in Raleigh on May 6. On May 12, Bill and Pat, parishioners at St. Stephen in Sanford, will celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary.

▶▶ Bill and Pat, cradle Catholics, were high-school sweethearts in Ohio. After marrying, they lived in various parts of the northeast, including many years in Buffalo, N.Y., where they reared 10 children before retiring to North Carolina. Residents of Sanford for 13 years, the Krackers have been blessed with 28 grandchildren and one

great-grandchild. Their pride in and affection for family is evident on the picture-lined walls of their home, and in the pleasure with which they reminisce about the "full house" days.

That love for family is something their children clearly share. In a 50th-anniversary album they presented to their parents last year, each one wrote about



things they'd taken from their upbringing, and love for each other was the underlying theme. "You taught us how to put love first," one child wrote, "to be unselfish, to give all for work but to save the best for family. How to laugh instead of trying to escape." Pat recalls the words of one of their daughters at Bill's retirement. He worked hard in the insurance business and often got home late, the daughter recalled, "but I loved it when Dad took his tie off and threw it over the back of his chair, because then we knew he was home for us."

"The children still call when they have a grief or to share a happiness," Pat says. Bill shares that recently two of the children were worried by cancer-like symptoms, which turned out, fortunately, not to be life-threatening. "All you can do at a time like that is just talk with them, listen..." Bill says, and Pat adds, "Cry. And pray."

Asked what advice they would have for married couples starting out, "I think we tried to understand each other's side of things when there were differences," Bill says, "and our faith is an anchor." Pat agrees: "I think sometimes young people are too quick to run when there's trouble," she says, "when you have those times, when you don't like each other or when you have problems with the kids. We were always very involved in parish life and that was a big help. When we had difficulties we'd go straight to the parish priest."

There will be many couples like Pat and Bill Kracker at the wedding anniversary Mass, each with a different story, but each story inspiring in its own way and each one worth celebrating.

*For a Suitable Training in Holiness...*

## AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY Institute for Pastoral Theology



**NOW ACCEPTING  
APPLICATIONS FOR  
FALL 2007 CLASSES IN**

**Charleston,  
South Carolina**

Class Location: Columbia, SC

**Application Deadline:  
May 15, 2007**

### MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

#### Our Commitment

- ◆ Theological Education – Formation of Mind
- ◆ Spiritual Formation – Conversion of Heart
- ◆ Pastoral Orientation – Prudential Wisdom

#### Format

- ◆ One Weekend a Month
- ◆ August – May
- ◆ Three-Year Cycle

#### For More Information

Toll Free: 866-866-1100

Email: [ipt@avemaria.edu](mailto:ipt@avemaria.edu)

Web: [www.ipt.avemaria.edu](http://www.ipt.avemaria.edu)





**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour**, May 4 and June 1, 7:30 pm – 9 pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before Communion praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. While the VHH's are open to everyone, it will certainly be a unique opportunity for men and women discerning a church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment. **There will be no VHH in July or August. The series will resume in September.**

**Wedding Anniversary Mass**, May 6, 2 p.m., at Our Lady of Lourdes in Raleigh. To pay tribute to the vocation of marriage, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge will celebrate a Mass for couples marking their 25th, 50th and 50+ wedding anniversaries in 2007. The Mass will be an annual event. Parishes will provide the names of couples to be recognized and honored. Contact Linda Bedo for information at [bedo@raldioc.org](mailto:bedo@raldioc.org).

**Catholic Charities** of the Diocese of Raleigh, Inc. will hold a **free estate planning seminar** on Tuesday, May 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Holy Family Parish in Elizabeth City. Featured presenter will be Elizabeth City native and attorney M. Powell Peters, an expert in estate law. A light lunch will be provided. **Reservations are required.** Call Catholic Charities Albemarle Regional office at 919.426.7717 by May 1 to reserve your place.



Visit [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news) for more news

#### Interested in advanced studies in theology?

Pursue a master's degree or certificate in pastoral studies or religious education with the new LIMEX (Loyola University extension program) group now being formed in the Triangle. Information sessions will be held in the Hartigan Room at the Catholic Center in Raleigh (715 Nazareth St., Raleigh) on Thursday, May 3, and Tuesday, May 8, 7 p.m. Attendance at an information session is a required part of the LIMEX application process. For further information or to register for an information session, please contact Bea Callery in the Office for Lay Ministry, [callery@raldioc.org](mailto:callery@raldioc.org) or 919.821.9715. Information concerning other degree and certificate programs will also be available.

**Retreat with Marino**, 7 p.m. Friday, May 18, to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 19, at Avila Retreat Center. If you enjoyed and benefited from last year's spirituality retreat with Marino Restrepo, or if you missed it, please be sure to sign up this year. Call 919.481.4937 to reserve a slot. Cost \$95.

**Handicapped Encounter Christ Fundraising Banquet Dinner**, 7 p.m., May 11 at St. Michael's Church, Cary. Special guest Dr. Leslie Smith. Music by Jeff Bray. For more information contact Brent Heiser at [director@hecnc.org](mailto:director@hecnc.org) or 919.544.0684.

#### Project Rachel Retreat

**Weekend**, 6 p.m. May 18 to 2 p.m. May 20 at the Short Journey Center, Smithfield. The weekend is an opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion in a supportive and confidential environment. The fee for the weekend is \$95, which includes lodging and meals. Contact Jackie Bonk at [projectrachel@nc.rr.com](mailto:projectrachel@nc.rr.com) or 919.852.1021.

**Youth Convention**, May 18-20 at the Greenville Convention Center. A diocesan-wide gathering for grades 9-12 in a weekend celebration. The weekend will offer a carnival, keynoter, workshops, prayer, activities, dance, talent show, liturgy, Youth Board elections, awards and lots more. Cost: \$160 youth/adults. Contact Mike Hagarty, [Hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:Hagarty@raldioc.org) or 919.821.9770.

#### Encountering God in the Word - for Small Groups

9 a.m.-2 p.m. May 19 at the Doggett Center at Aquinas House (NCSU). Father Jude Siciliano, O.P., will offer participants a method for facilitating a vital encounter with the word of God. This is the fifth and final session of the course. The sessions will be in English and Spanish. To register, e-mail [register@raldioc.org](mailto:register@raldioc.org) with contact info, or by regular mail: Registrar, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606.

**Ordination to the Priesthood of Deacons Anthony DeCandia and Marco González** will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 9, at St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill, NC.

**Gossman Awards Dinner**, 6-9 p.m. June 7 at the Fallon Center, Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh. The Gossman Award recognizes outstanding volunteer service to Catholic schools in the diocese.

**Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass**, 12:10 p.m. June 15 at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

**Upcoming retreats at Avila Retreat Center**, 711 Mason Road, Durham, NC 27712. To register or for more information call 919.477.1285.

**7 p.m. Friday, June 15, to 11 a.m. Sunday, June 17 Spirit & Art – Art & Spirit.** Do you connect with your spirit by creating art, or do you get in touch with your spirit before you can get creative? You're sure to find out a lot about yourself this weekend. We will enjoy plenty of time to explore, ponder, play, relax and release the artist that is within. No art experience is necessary to participate in this fun and relaxing retreat – which is back by popular demand. All materials are included. Presenter(s): Claudia Fulshaw & Lisa Giannini, Durham Artists. Donation: \$150.

#### 9:30 am.-2 p.m. June 16, (Sat.) Under Construction: How to Forgive When People Have Hurt or Disappointed You Intentionally or Unintentionally.

The retreat will focus primarily on the story of Jonah and what it means to have the power of the resurrected Jesus available to us. It will address how to pray for those with whom we differ ethically and politically. Presenter Wanda K. Wilkins earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees from UNC Chapel Hill in Nursing and Public Health. Donation: \$25 (includes lunch).

**7 p.m. Friday, July 20, to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 21. Come and See: A Photojournalist's Journey**



**into the World of Mother Teresa.** The retreat will focus on the work and influence of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta and how it relates to our present circumstances in the world today. Presenter author Linda Schaefer will share her personal journey with Mother Teresa in 1995. Donation: \$75.

**Family Honor** will be presenting "Changes and Challenges," a very special family program for 6th graders and their parents April 20 & 27, at St. Patrick's in Fayetteville. The purpose of "Changes and Challenges" is to explore God's special gift of human fertility, sexuality, the virtue of chastity, and the beauty and wonder of growing up. This program is grounded in Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body and is presented in an age-appropriate way. There are two parts to the program: Session 1 is for parents only and Session 2 is for parents with their sixth-grade son or daughter. For questions about Family Honor or the program please call Lisa Roess at 919.362.0771. Parish Contact: Beth O'Leary 910.323.2410

**Priesthood Discernment Group**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. June 2 at the Doggett Center, Raleigh. This group provides a comfortable and safe place to discuss your thoughts and feelings about a possible call to the priesthood. The group discusses issues central to the call within the context of prayer and mutual support. If you think this group may be for you, contact Fr. Alex at 919.833.9668 or e-mail him at [jagonza3@ncsu.edu](mailto:jagonza3@ncsu.edu).



► St. Mark Catholic School in Wilmington presented a Broadway Lions/Mill Creek Players production of *Getting to Know... Oklahomla!* on April 20, 21, and 22. The show, directed by "Maestro Chris" Dayett, local actor and St. Mark Catholic School music teacher, and performed by St. Mark students, features many of the hit songs of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. **Pictured:** Ben Rachunok as Curly McLain and Tess Colby as Laurey Williams.

## Father Brockman appointed Vicar General

► Bishop Michael F. Burbidge has announced the appointment of Father David Brockman, Pastor of St. Patrick Church, Fayetteville, as Vicar General of the Diocese of Raleigh, effective July 9, 2007. On that same date, Monsignor Michael Shugrue, who has served the Diocese as Vicar General since 2002, will be appointed pastor at Saint Patrick.

In a letter to the parishioners of St. Patrick, Bishop Burbidge wrote, "I realize the great sacrifice Father Brockman is making in accepting this appointment and in leaving the parish he loves so much... It is our love for the Church that allows us to say 'yes' and I believe that our Diocese will be greatly blessed in and through the wisdom and expertise of Father Brockman."

The bishop also praised Msgr. Shugrue's gifts and dedication: "He has a wealth of pastoral and administrative experience and is enthusiastic about serving in this new assignment."

The Bishop urged all in the Diocese to keep Father Brockman and Monsignor Shugrue in their prayers during this time of transition.



Fr. Brockman at the dedication of St. Patrick's Family Life Center.



Msgr. Michael P. Shugrue

## Bishop marks Divine Mercy Sunday

► On April 15, Bishop Burbidge celebrated Divine Mercy Sunday with the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Benediction at St. Therese Church in Wrightsville Beach. In the evening, he met with students and celebrated Mass at the Newman Center on the campus of UNC-Wilmington.

## BAA update

► As of April 2, \$5,820,198.84 has been pledged to the 2007 Bishop's Annual Appeal.

This is 128.2% of goal, and represents 27,051 pledges, or a Diocesan participation rate of 39%.



BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL



Visit [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/donate](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/donate) for more information on the 2007 Bishop's Appeal.





The Chrism Mass incorporates the Rite of the Blessing of the Holy Oils and Consecration of the Sacred Chrism. During the Mass, priests serving in the Diocese also renew their commitment to priestly service.

### Chrism Mass Highlights Eucharist, Priesthood

▶▶ On April 3, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge celebrated his first Chrism Mass since becoming Bishop of Raleigh. At the Mass, held at St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Apex, Bishop Burbidge thanked retired Bishop F. Joseph Gossman, the priests, religious and the laity of the Diocese for opening their arms and their hearts to him in welcoming him to his new home. "I thank God for the privilege of being the Bishop of this faith-filled Diocese," the Bishop said in his opening remarks.

The Chrism Mass is celebrated during Holy Week and incorporates the Rite of the Blessing of the Holy Oils and Consecration of the Sacred Chrism. The oils and chrism are used by parishes throughout the year for Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, and for the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

In his homily, speaking to his brother priests, Bishop Burbidge said, "When we were ordained, the Spirit of the Lord came upon us, consecrated us, and sent us to announce to Gospel, to sanctify through the sacraments and to shepherd God's people in love."

The Bishop spoke of the power of the Eucharist for all faithful; the laity, those in consecrated life and those serving in priesthood. Quoting from Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on the Eucharist, *Sacramentum Caritatis (The Sacrament of Charity)*, Bishop Burbidge noted that "Every vocation has the Eucharist as its source, and through this precious gift we are sustained."

During the Mass, priests serving in the Diocese renew their commitment to priestly service. Soon they will welcome among their number Deacons Anthony DeCandia and Marco Gonzalez, whom Bishop Burbidge will ordain to the diocesan priesthood on June 9 at St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill. On June 30, seminarians Romen Acero and Michael Spurr will be ordained to the transitional diaconate at St. Luke the Evangelist in Raleigh. Bishop Burbidge will also ordain two Franciscan priests, George Corrigan and Emerson Rodriguez, on May 19 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Raleigh.

### Family Life Center dedicated at St. Patrick

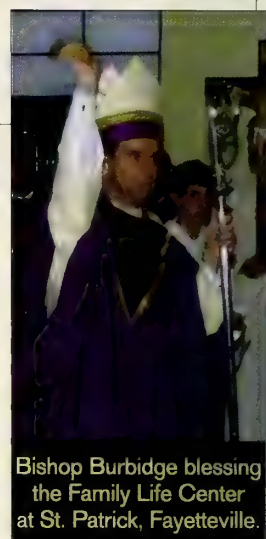
▶▶ St. Patrick Catholic Church in Fayetteville dedicated its new Family Life Center on March 17 with a Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge presided.

The new building is the first phase of the center. It features a gymnasium with locker rooms, two offices and a portable stage. The building also will serve as a space for parish activities.

Father David Brockman, pastor of St. Patrick, said the Center is more than just a building. "This Center will help evangelize," Father Brockman said. "It will serve those who are active in the parish as well as those who may not belong to any church. Every church building is aimed at welcoming one and all."

St. Patrick's was the first dedicated Catholic Church in North Carolina, dating back to March 17, 1829.

In dedicating the new building, Bishop Burbidge called it "a milestone in the life of your parish" and commended the community "for this great achievement." This is the first building the Bishop has dedicated since his installation in August 2006.



Bishop Burbidge blessing the Family Life Center at St. Patrick, Fayetteville.

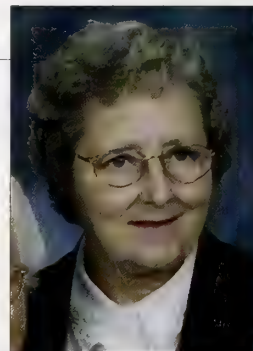
### Sister Mary Blaise Semple, SJSM

▶▶ Sister Mary Blaise Semple, SJSM, a well known and beloved woman Religious who served in the Diocese of Raleigh for more than three decades, died on April 9th. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge celebrated her funeral Mass on Friday morning, April 13th, at Saint Stephen Church in Sanford, and she was buried in the parish cemetery.

At her funeral, former Saint Stephen pastor Fr. John Forbes described her as "rooted in the Eucharist... The Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Mark were founded as a congregation of Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. That Eucharistic Worship is extended by fraternal service — adoration leads to action." Sister Blaise and several other Sisters of her Order arrived in Lee County in 1974, focusing on service in home health nursing. "I remember her enthusiasm when she found the program about parish nurses," Fr. Forbes said. "She said that her whole life had been building to the spiritual care of the sick and homebound. She was instrumental in founding the hospice of Lee County."

A talented musician, Sister Blaise founded the St. Stephen choir, and participated in several community orchestras. Although educated as a nurse, she also had a Master's Degree in Spirituality, and was much appreciated for her teaching and leadership at the Days of Recollection she organized at Saint Stephen.

"Sister was truly a multitasking person," Father Forbes said, "who chose to give her life to God."





## Cause for John Paul II advances

**T**he closing session of the investigation of Pope John Paul II's life and virtues was scheduled to take place on the second anniversary of his death. The solemn opening of the diocesan phase took place June 28, 2005, less than three months after John Paul II's death.

➤ In an interview with the Italian newspaper *Il Corriere della Sera*, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, archbishop of Krakow and John Paul II's former secretary, said, "Now the word passes to the curia in Rome."

After the closing of the diocesan investigation, the Roman phase will begin with the elaboration of a report to be prepared by a collaborator of the postulator of the cause, Monsignor Slawomir Oder, under the guidance of a relator of the Congregation for Saints' Causes. That congregation also will receive the documents relating to the miracles attributed to John Paul II's intercession. Monsignor Oder revealed that the investigation is concentrating especially on the case of a French nun who was cured inexplicably of Parkinson's disease.

Cardinal Dziwisz, who was John Paul II's assistant for 40 years, said: "Juridically, the beatification allows for only one ... devotion of a local character, namely, in the Diocese of Krakow. In this, perhaps, there is a contradiction, as he has surmounted all the barriers; he belongs to the whole world." The cardinal continued: "It is certainly possible to 'make the leap' to beatification and begin immediately with the process to make him a saint. However, this depends on the Holy Father."

"For a long time, the process of beatification did not exist; there was only canonization. Beatification is a juridical rule. The Holy Father can decide otherwise." — ZENIT



Pope John Paul II waves at a Mass in Paris.

## May Readings

### Sunday, May 6

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 14:21-27  
Ps 145:8-9,10-11,12-13  
Rev 21:1-5a  
John 13:31-33a,34-35

### Sunday, May 13

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 15:1-2,22-29  
Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8 (4)  
Rev 21:10-14, 22-23  
John 14:23-29

### Sunday, May 20

*The Ascension of the Lord*  
Acts 7:55-60  
Ps 97:1-2,6-7,9 (1a,9a)  
Rev 22:12-14,16-17,20  
John 17:20-26

### Sunday, May 27

*Pentecost*  
Acts 2:1-11  
Ps 104:1,24,29-30,31,34  
1 Cor 12:3b-7,12-13 or Rom 8:8-17  
John 20:19-23 or 14:15-16,23b-26



## we want to hear from you

If you have story ideas you would like *NC Catholics* to consider, or would like to comment on articles and stories in this issue of *NC Catholics*, please e-mail them to Rich Reece at: [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org) or mail them to:

*NC Catholics Magazine*  
715 Nazareth St.,  
Raleigh, NC 27606

**NC Catholics**  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

### The Catholic Diocese of Richmond seeks a Director for the Hispanic Apostolate

The selected individual will collaborate with parishes and diocesan offices in the evangelization, formation and training of Hispanics. The Director also collaborates with the Office for Black Catholics and the Asian Community in order to assess and meet the needs of the community.

Additional information regarding this opportunity is located on the diocesan website, [www.richmonddiocese.org](http://www.richmonddiocese.org). Position is open until filled. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and diocesan application to [dmahanes@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:dmahanes@richmonddiocese.org), or mail to:

D.G. Mahanes, Director of Human Resources, Catholic Diocese of Richmond, 811 Cathedral Place, Richmond, VA 23220.



### DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

St. Paul the Apostle is a community that is committed to Intergenerational Catechesis and is seeking an experienced

Director of Faith Formation. The position will be open as of July 1, 2007. Candidate must be a practicing Catholic with a master's degree in Catholic theology and a minimum of five years pastoral experience. Send resume and references to:

Susie Barnes, St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd, Greensboro, NC 27410; fax (336) 294-6149; e-mail [sbarnes@stpaulcc.org](mailto:sbarnes@stpaulcc.org).



Perhaps, driving west on U.S. highway 64 and approaching Siler City, you have noticed St. Julia. Architecturally one of the most distinctive churches in our diocese, the graceful, adobe-style structure sits atop a hill, looking as if it landed suddenly from New Mexico or Arizona. The Catholic community of St. Julia is just as distinctive. Its membership is 75 percent Latino. On Sunday there are two Masses in Spanish, one in English; the Saturday Mass is bilingual. As much as any church in the diocese, St. Julia has felt the impact since 1988 of Hispanic immigration to North Carolina.

There has been a steady and supportive Catholic presence in Siler City since 1953, when Father Paul Byron celebrated Mass in the home of Mrs. Charlie Ellis, a devout Baptist. The mission church of St. Julia was consecrated in 1961, and in the next 20 years the congregation grew from eight families to 35. Rapid growth began in the late '80s, though. In 1990, Sister Anita Gutierrez, S.Sp.S., was appointed pastoral administrator. She was succeeded in 1993 by Franciscan Father Daniel Quackenbush, who would be St. Julia's found-

ing pastor. By 1999, when St. Julia became a parish, more than 300 people were attending Spanish Mass on Sundays, while feasts such as that of Our Lady of Guadalupe would draw 700. The church could seat 125.

Faced with the need for a new worship space, St. Julia benefited from gifts from several sources. Members Walter and Agnes Bunton donated 10 acres of land. The Diocese of Raleigh offered a grant of \$240,000 and an interest-free loan for an equal amount. Meanwhile, parishioners pledged donations if they were

the Diocese of  
**Raleigh** ★



able, while others sold tacos and tamales after Mass to help the cause. Bishop E. Joseph Gossman

consecrated the new church on Dec. 9, 2001.

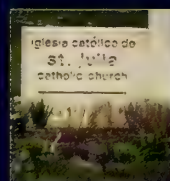
Father James Fukes, OFM Conv., has been pastor of St. Julia for almost a year. *Generous* is one of the first words he uses in describing his parishioners. "There are really two communities in the parish," he explains, "the 'founding' members, English speaking, who remain very involved, and very open to newcomers; and the growing Latino community, who are eager to do all they can to contribute."

Members of both groups participate enthusiastically in the various ministries of the parish. One difference in the communities, in many cases, is economic. The Hispanics, many of whom are undocumented, work long hours for low pay (many at two nearby chicken processing plants) and are vulnerable to bad treatment and deprivation of basic rights by employers. One of the pastor's (and his order's) concerns is working for justice for these workers.

As might be expected, a parish with the cultural make-up of St. Julia is a young church. Father Jim enjoys the many baptisms (up to 20 a month), quinceañera Masses and weddings. The pastor also feels energized by the growth of both communities at St. Julia, and the work of helping them to blend. "An important challenge," he says, "is to make one community out of these two. That takes time and, in that sense, I think we are a developing parish." ✠

— Rich Reece

#### resource



**St. Julia**  
210 Harold  
Hart Road  
Siler City, NC  
27344

▶ Call the  
parish office at  
**919.742.5584**  
for Mass times.

# One community from two



St. Julia, Siler City



# Take time to learn how giving can pay you

Could you be missing an opportunity to make a contribution to the Catholic Church and help yourself at the same time? Learn more about a gift that benefits you and the Church.

Begin by completing and returning this response form below.

To request information, fill out the form and mail to: Debbie Rossi;  
715 Nazareth Street; Raleigh, NC 27606; 919-821-9721; [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org)

INFORMATION  
IS STRICTLY  
CONFIDENTIAL

☐ Please send me the brochure,

*The Charitable Gift Annuity: Answers to Frequently Asked Questions.*

☐ I would like a personal illustration of how a charitable gift annuity would benefit me.

Use this amount for my illustration: ☐ \$50,000 ☐ \$25,000 ☐ \$10,000 ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive my payments: ☐ quarterly ☐ semi-annually ☐ annually.

The proposal should be prepared for: ☐ me only; my birth date is \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please include a second individual whose birth date is \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

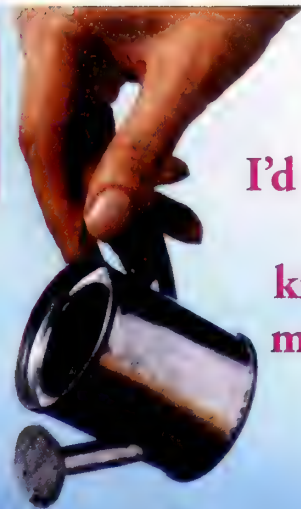
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Visit our Estate Planning Web Site:

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.



I'd like  
to  
know  
more!

Sample age and rate of returns

One Life		Two Lives	
Your Age	Rate of Return	Ages	Rate of Return
50	5.30%	65/65	5.60%
55	5.50%	65/70	5.70%
60	5.70%	70/70	5.90%
65	6.00%	70/75	6.10%
70	6.50%	75/75	6.30%
75	7.10%	75/80	6.60%
80	8.00%	80/80	6.90%
85	9.50%	85/85	7.90%
90	11.30%	90/90	9.30%

## Retired. Not retiring.

For Phil, wellness means relaxing without a care in the world. Having more time to exercise his mind and listen to his spirit gives him a sense of inner harmony. It's the simple joy of living, and Phil knows he'll find it here. Because here, wellness is a way of life.

*Pennybyrn at Maryfield is opening soon and residence selection is becoming limited – act now!*



**PENNYBYRN**  
at MARYFIELD

A Retirement Living Community

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

(336) 886-4103 or (866) 627-9343

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

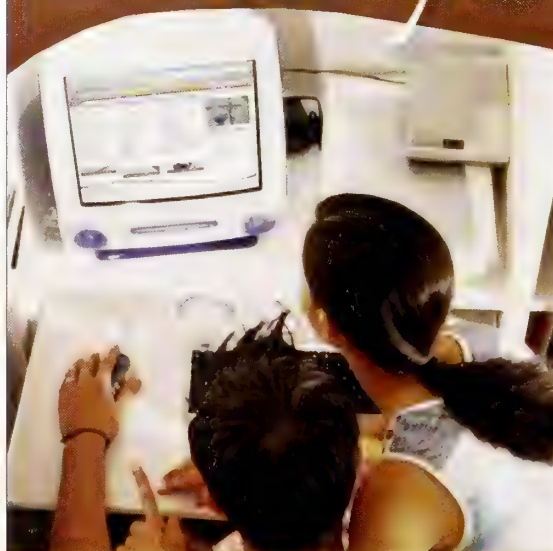
Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor  
Servants of the Mother of God



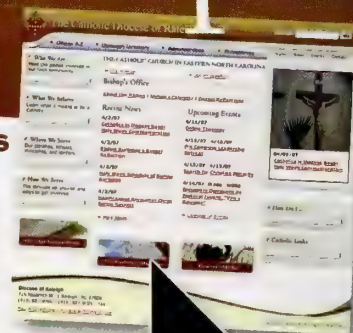
MAG/NCC/Ret2



# your church at your fingertips



- breaking, detailed diocesan news
- complete events calendar
- podcasting
- parish links
- Bishop's weekly gospel reflections – video and print versions



Go Now to

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514  
35737 P 13 1148 ##  
SERIALS DEPARTMENT 34289  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

June 2007

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholic.org](http://www.NCCatholic.org)

from the bishop

Faces of generosity

voices in our church

The generosity  
of a saint

Los emigrantes  
en nuestra  
comunidad

parish profile

“Wonderful people  
who love the Lord”  
St. Peter, Greenville

parish poll

What is the  
greatest gift you  
ever received?

# “You just ask”

How Kathy Doyle  
mobilizes the generosity of a  
parish community

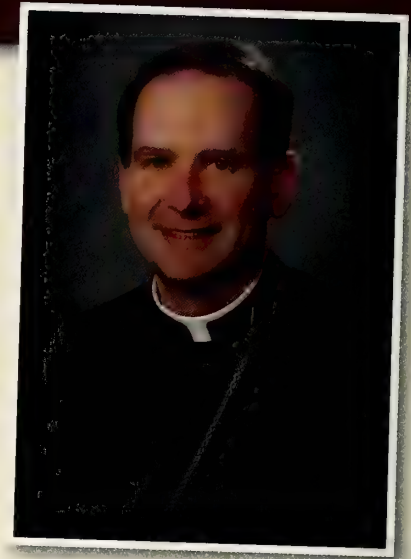
diocesan news

Priests,  
transitional  
deacons  
to be  
ordained





**W**e have been exploring the fruits of the Holy Spirit this year in *NC Catholics*. In this issue, we examine generosity. I think it is easy in our culture to focus primarily on money when we think about the word *generosity*. Certainly people can be financially generous. For example, the Catholics of the Diocese of Raleigh were very generous in this year's Bishop's Annual Appeal. Through your generous pledges of \$5.8 million, many programs in the diocese will be able to offer services to the people of God throughout the eastern half of North Carolina. I am grateful for your generosity.



But there is something more foundational about the particular fruit of the Holy Spirit we call generosity that bears further reflection. First, we must understand that the Holy Spirit is present to us at all times. We believe that if we allow the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us, our lives will bear good fruit. One of those fruits is generosity. It is a gift from God, who is the epitome of generosity. Look at the universe God has created, the marvel of a human being and the beauty of creation all around us. These are only some of the ways we see God's generosity. Of course, the most generous gift of God is His Son, Jesus Christ, who poured out His entire life for the redemption of the world through his passion, death, and resurrection. When we act on our spiritual disposition toward generosity, we become a reflection of our God, in whose image and likeness we have been created, and our Savior who gave His life so that all might live forever.

Generosity is offering one's own gifts, goods, and even one's being to others. In April, Raleigh Catholic Parish Outreach celebrated its 30th anniversary. This organization of Raleigh-area parishes has been feeding and clothing the needy without interruption for 30 years and has become the largest food pantry in the Triangle, with more than 250 parish volunteers serving the poor. This is generosity at work.

This month, two men, Anthony DeCandia and Marco González, will offer their lives in generous service to the people of God in the Diocese of Raleigh through ordination to the priesthood. At the end of the month, Romen Acero and Michael Spurr will offer their lives in generous service to the diocese when they are ordained to the transitional diaconate. The lives of these four men will be consecrated to God in an act of generosity so that all who live in the diocese may receive abundant spiritual fruit in their own lives. I rejoice for their generosity and pray each day that other men will come forward in generous service to the Church as priests. I also pray that many more men and women will hear and respond to the Lord's call to serve the Church as vowed religious.

Each and every day, you make countless sacrifices to respond faithfully and generously to your particular vocation in life. Be assured that when we offer our lives in service to God, He will produce fruit abundantly in and through us. May the Lord grant you continued perseverance and allow the generosity of your lives to inspire others.

May Mary, who gave her whole life generously to God, watch over and protect you always.

**Each and every day, you make countless sacrifices to respond faithfully and generously to your particular vocation in life. Be assured that when we offer our lives in service to God, He will produce fruit abundantly in and through us.**

## faces of generosity

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is Bishop of Raleigh.

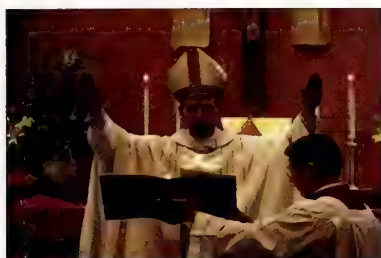




cover story

▶▶ **"You just ask"**  
How Kathy Doyle mobilizes the generosity of a parish community  
— Rich Reece

12



**5 local news**  
**Celebrating the generosity of married love**

**16 el hispano católico**  
**"Tan solo pregunta"**  
Como Kathy Doyle promueve la generosidad de una comunidad parroquial — Rich Reece

**18 Ya que usted lo pregunta...**  
**Ya que usted lo pregunta**  
De tu experiencia con matrimonios, ¿Qué opinas con respecto a los factores que contribuyen a un matrimonio estable?  
— Reverendo Monseñor Jerry Sherba

**19 Obispo Burbidge**  
**El lado de la generosidad**  
— Obispo Michael F. Burbidge

# inside

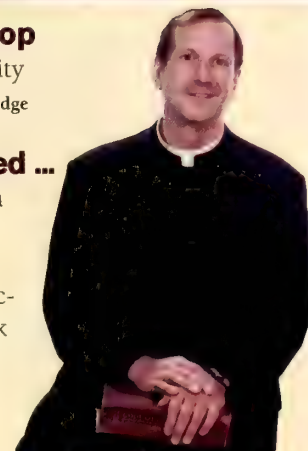
what you'll get out of this issue

## from the bishop

**2** Faces of generosity  
— Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

## since you asked ...

**6** Dear NCC: From your experience with married couples, what factors do you think contribute to a strong marriage?  
— Msgr. Jerry Sherba



## parish poll

**7** What is the greatest gift you ever received?

## theology 101

**8** What does John mean when he calls Jesus "The Word"?  
A conversation about Christology with seminary professors  
— Elizabeth Solsburg

## voices in our church

**11** The generosity of a saint  
— Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
**11** Los emigrantes en nuestra comunidad  
— Padre Fernando Torres

## your marriage matters

**20** He says: I want my mother to move in. She says: I don't. What do they do?  
— Deborah McCormack

## from the editor

**21** I once was lost.  
— Rich Reece

## spiritual fitness

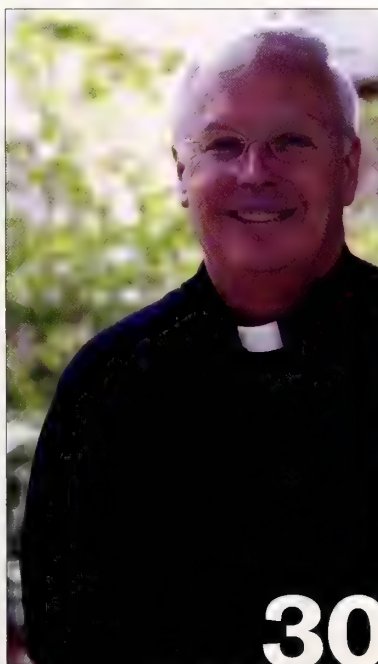
**22** Let the river of generosity run through you; how to have a generous spirit  
— Father Bill Ashbaugh

## ◀◀ parish profile

**30** "Wonderful people who love the Lord" — St. Peter, Greenville  
— Rich Reece



16



30



# NC Catholics

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

June 2007 • Vol. 3 : Issue 5

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Dana Lorelle  
Msgr. Jerry Sherba  
Fr. Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

Dana Lorelle  
EW Photography (cover)  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

## FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Enomhen Odigie  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Jillane Job  
SUBSCRIPTIONS/SECRETARY

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Betsy Miner  
Derek Melot  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax: 919.821.9705 or e-mail: ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™. Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730

## Two new priests, two transitional deacons to be ordained

On June 9, at St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge will ordain two new priests for the Diocese of Raleigh, Deacons Anthony DeCandia and Marco-Antonio Gonzalez. On June 30, at St. Luke the Evangelist in Raleigh, he will ordain two more men, Michael Spurr and Romen Acero-Molino, to the transitional diaconate, the last step before priestly Ordination.

### ►► Deacon Anthony Vincent DeCandia

was born in Beaufort, SC, in 1971, and raised in the Methodist tradition. His parents, Sharon and Anthony DeCandia, and his sister, Danielle, currently reside near Charlotte. While at NC State University, he began discerning and prayerfully studying the Bible and Church history.

In 1993, DeCandia was a tennis teaching professional and, by his own admission, "I was miserable. I needed to make a change — to quit my job at the country club and get back to church. I started looking for a healthier job and for a church to attend. But which one?"

"One week after quitting my job, I met Tim Hahn — a fireball with a knack for explaining the beauty of Catholicism. He reminded my heart of a desire for something — truth. Not the subjective kind — the eternal kind — the way, the truth and the life."

DeCandia joined an RCIA program at St. Michael's in Cary (Father Patrick Keane was in the same program.) and was received into the Church in 1994. His conversion was a struggle for his parents, but he felt it enhanced his friendship with them, especially with his father. "During that RCIA year," he says, "my father and I spoke on the phone almost daily for 2-3 hours at a time on the catechism and Catholic teaching."

On his path to the priesthood, DeCandia attended St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore. He served his pastoral year at St. Thomas More, passed a summer hospital chaplaincy internship at WakeMed and did an eight-week Spanish immersion program in Guadalajara, Mexico. In a column written in December 2005 for NC Catholics, DeCandia wrote: "Eleven years into my Catholic and priestly education, I am still growing, still seeking conversion, still desiring to be a docile instrument in the hands of the Lord."



### ►► Marco Antonio


González-Hernández was born in 1971 in Guadalajara, México. Along with his parents, Roberto González and Soledad Hernández, and his three brothers, Roberto, Juan José and Francisco, Gonzalez came to North Carolina in 1991.

The family settled in Newton Grove, where he credits then-pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Father James Garneau, with "introducing us to the culture here." Like many Latino immigrants, Gonzalez worked in the fields, picking blueberries and cucumbers. He also attended church and began a home Bible study, eventually becoming involved in ministry at St. Mary's Church in Mount Olive. It was there, in 1997, that he felt a call to priesthood. "When I told my parents," he recalls, "they said, 'Are you crazy?' But eventually they saw that when God puts something in your heart, it cannot be stopped."

Gonzalez affiliated with the diocese in 1998 and served a pastoral year under then-pastor Msgr. Thomas Hadden at St. Mary's in Wilmington, especially ministering to Hispanics. "I had a lot to learn," he says, "but Msgr. Hadden is one of the best priests I've met in my life." Gonzalez attended St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami for his philosophy studies and studied theology at St. Meinrad Seminary in Indiana and Assumption Seminary in San Antonio, TX.

Gonzalez' parents have since returned to





ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

FIRST FRIDAY

**VOCATIONS**

**HOLY HOUR**

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD  
AND RELIGIOUS LIFE IN THE DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

**JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>**      **MUSIC & CONFESSIONS — 7:30 P.M.**  
**HOLY HOUR — 8:00 P.M.**



Mexico, but he says they are "very excited" to attend his ordination. And Gonzalez himself? He recalls his ordination to the transitional diaconate last November: "The day before I was very nervous, but during the ceremony, when I was prostrate before the bishop, I cried. I could feel the Spirit filling my life. Becoming a priest will be a huge responsibility, but also a great blessing."

►► **Michael Spurr** was born in 1963 in Galena, Illinois, but moved to Clinton, Iowa at age two. He is the son of Carol and the late Richard Spurr and has three sisters and a brother. After completing his undergraduate degree at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1986, he served in the U.S. Navy for seven years. "I had really gotten away from the Church," he recalls, "but I realized something was missing." Then he relocated to Wake Forest, North Carolina as an operations manager for a telecommunications company and began attending church. He remembers a turning point following the funeral of a young girl at St. Luke: "I was sitting in my kitchen and I thought, 'She lost her life for reasons no one can explain. I have my life, but what am I doing with it?'" Spurr began formation for the Diocese of Raleigh in 2002. He found a summer chaplaincy at WakeMed eye-opening. "Dealing with terminal patients taught me to try to see Jesus in people, and to hope they'll see Jesus in me."



►► **Romen Acero-Molina** is from Bogotá, Colombia. He is the eldest son of Flor Molina de Acero and the late Luis Acero and was born in 1967. He has four younger siblings. He became actively involved in his parish during his adolescence in catechesis, youth ministry, and liturgy. He was a high-school religion and philosophy teacher in Colombia for nine years, a job that opened up his intellectual and spiritual life. He affiliated with the Diocese of Raleigh in 2002, has studied theology at St. Marys Seminary in Baltimore, and completed his pastoral year internship at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Newton Grove. Acero believes that the Gospel has very specific answers for the questions of people living in today's world. During his time in North Carolina, he has been particularly moved by the conditions of immigrant workers. "They are oppressed," he says. "Poverty, discrimination — it's an enormous challenge for our diocese. But with God's help, I'm ready to respond to the needs of His people."



### Celebrating the generosity of married love

**"M**arried love is a gift...to the entire church." Approximately 300 married couples took part in two special Milestone Anniversary Masses celebrated by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge on May 6 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Raleigh.

►► The celebrations were for husbands and wives celebrating their 25th and 50th or beyond wedding anniversaries in 2007. Of the 300 couples in attendance, 136 were celebrating at least 50 years of marriage.

In re-establishing this celebration as an annual event, Bishop Burbidge said, "We must make a concerted effort to support and encourage the sanctity of marriage in the Church and to rejoice with those who have reached significant milestones in their life as husband and wife."

"I look forward to this annual celebration," the Bishop added, "to lift up the vocation of marriage and to focus on the importance of this vocation for the life of our Church and society."

In his homily, Bishop Burbidge noted that, "Married love is a gift not just to the couple, but to the entire Church. Because of your love," the Bishop said, "the Church is enriched and made holier; the community is made holier; the community is made a better place and individuals, who know meet and love you are inspired."

More than 1,000 people attended the two liturgies. One Mass had been scheduled, but due to the response, a second Mass was added to accommodate those wishing to attend.





# dear NCC

This month with Msgr. Jerry Sherba

**Dear NCC:** From your experience with married couples, **what factors do you think contribute to a strong marriage?**

**I** have been an ordained priest for 28 years. I have served 2.5 years as parochial vicar (which we used to call “associate pastor”) and 21.5 years as a pastor; 23 of my 28 years, I have also been involved in the tribunal (three as an advocate; three as defender of the bond and 17 as vicar judicial). The tribunal is the ecclesiastical court of the Church, focusing mainly on the declaration of nullity (or invalidity) of a marriage.

Over the years, I have had the joy of spending many hours meeting with couples planning to be married and many hours working on cases of marriages that failed. Every couple is unique; each has his or her own expectations and needs; their own hopes and dreams. I have seen many looking forward to spending the rest of their lives with their loved one. I have also witnessed many who have had those hopes and dreams shattered.

While the Catholic Church believes and teaches the indissolubility of marriage, it is very true that many marriages fail. In today’s American society, just as many Catholic marriages fail as do

**This may sound elementary, but a spouse should not presume that the other is his or her soul mate. This does not just “happen.” It takes work; it takes effort; it takes dedication.**

marriages of those in the general public. The tribunal, although a judicial system based upon laws and regulations which must be followed, is the compassionate arm of the Church. It reaches out to those who, for as many reasons as there are people, have experienced the heartbreak of divorce and want to re-enter into the fullness of the Church through their participation in the Eucharist.

What makes one marriage last and another fail? There is no simple answer. There are, however, several factors which, I believe, could contribute to helping a couple truly live their vocation in marriage:

**1 Communication.** It is true that probably 95 percent of marital problems are communication problems. Couples need to be able to share with one another their hopes and dreams; and their fears and concerns; their likes and dislikes; and their frustrations and pitfalls in a spirit of openness and acceptance. This may sound elementary, but a spouse should not presume that the other is their soul mate. This does not just “happen.” It takes work; it takes effort; it takes dedication. Don’t be afraid to share with one another how you are feeling about something.

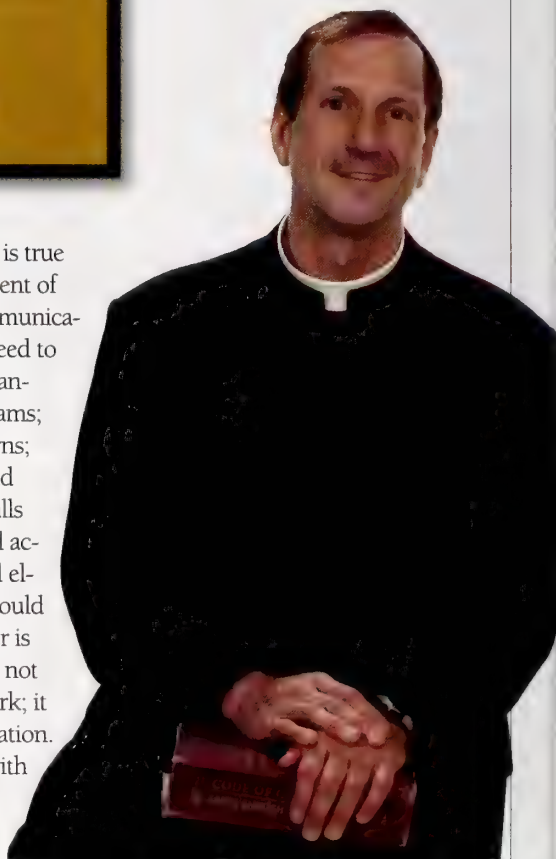
**Three phrases that never grow old, but we seem to forget as the years go on, are “Thank you,” “I’m sorry” and “I love you”.**

**2 Making time for each other.** In our busy, constant-motion society, we all need to take time to rejuvenate. It is especially true for couples. Make the time to be with each other in the presence of each other. Meals, “down time,” recreation (read that also as re-creation) are just as important as going to work, or sitting down discussing budgets, trips and professional improvement.

**3 Expressing your love for each other.** While this, too, may seem elementary, over the years we tend to take it for granted. “She knows I love her” or “I know he knows how I feel” may have been true at the beginning of your marriage, but may not be so true as life goes on. The old

phrase “little things mean a lot” is truer than we’d like to admit. It’s the little things – doing something special, buying something the other enjoys, sharing a favorite meal – that add up. Just like it’s the little things – like not picking up one’s clothes, taking too long in the bathroom, never helping with cleaning – that also add up... to a possible disaster.

Three phrases that never grow old, but we seem to forget as the years go on, are “Thank you,” “I’m sorry” and “I love you.” We all need not only to hear these phrases, but also need to verbalize them, to express them from our hearts, to show the other how much they mean to us. When we feel needed, we make an extra effort to do our best.





## What year was the first African-American bishop consecrated?

►► The Diocese of Maine consecrated the first African-American bishop in the history of American Catholicism, James A. Healy, on **June 2, WHAT YEAR?**

►► Flag Day originated **June 14, WHAT YEAR?**

►► While in Sarajevo, Bosnia, Archduke Ferdinand and his wife were assassinated by a Serbian nationalist belonging to the organization known as the 'Black Hand'. This event, which caused an immediate uproar leading to World War I, occurred on **June 28, WHAT YEAR?**

►► Following Virginia's secession from the Union, 40 of its western counties did not secede and, instead, formed their own government. This act formed a new state, West Virginia, which officially entered the United States as the 35th state on **June 20, WHAT YEAR?**



Answers: 1875, 1914, 1877, 1914, 1863

**4 Praying with each other.** Granted, prayer is spending time with God. But it's not only our individual time with God. Rather, it's also special time with God with the person we love. At your wedding, you began with prayer – community prayer – gathering in a church to be with your family and friends who prayed for you and with you. Spending time with your spouse in prayer each day is just as important: Nurturing the God-given gift of his love for yourself and your spouse, asking for God's wisdom and guidance, asking His blessing upon both of you as you begin and end your day strengthens your marriage covenant – the on-going, life-giving, love-enhancing relationship you have with each other – and helps both of you to continue to live the sacrament you so willingly and lovingly entered at your wedding. ✠

**At your wedding, you began with prayer – community prayer – gathering in a church to be with your family and friends who prayed for you and with you. Spending time with your spouse in prayer each day is just as important.**

– Rev. Msgr. Girard M. Sherba, J.C.D., Ph. D., is rector of Sacred Heart Cathedral and vicar judicial for the Diocese of Raleigh.

**Send your questions to:**

**"Since you asked ..."**

715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606

Or: reece@raldioc.org

## Thank you, God!

"What is the greatest gift you ever received?"

This month, we asked sixth-graders from St. Michael the Archangel School in Cary, "What is the greatest gift you ever received?"



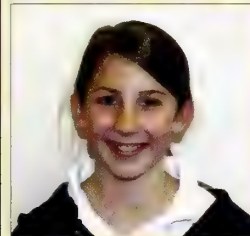
### Stephanie

The best gift I have ever received is my family. My parents are my most treasured possessions. This is because they put my whole life in place.



### Haley

Probably being born, because nothing is more precious than life.



### Ann

My five senses. I cannot imagine a world where I couldn't speak, smell, touch, taste, see or hear. I would never really experience this world.



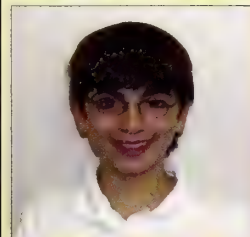
### Ben

When my sister recovered from cancer. It was such a good feeling when I found out she would live. Also that my family could be together every night, instead of my sister being at the hospital with either my mom or dad.



### Derek

The best gift for me is attending a Catholic school. I enjoy St. Michael's because we get to pray and talk about God and discuss the Bible in class, which is worth wearing a uniform.



### Jose

The greatest gift I've received is my baby brother, Antonio. He was born on my religion teacher's birthday, and he brings me peace and joy from God.



# Jesus as the Word

Why is that one of his titles?



theologian of the month

**Athanasius of Alexandria**  
(c. 298-373)

▶ **Athanasius** was the patriarch of Alexandria in the fourth century.

▶ **He is famous** for his defense against the heresy of Arianism, which some theologians believe almost prevailed. Athanasius countered Arius' teaching that there was a time when God existed, but Jesus did not.

▶ **Athanasius attended the Council at Nicea**, where the famous creed was developed, and he is one of the doctors of the church.

▶ **Athanasius is the first person** to identify the canon of the New Testament as being the 27 books we use today.

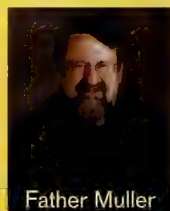
▶ **Athanasius was originally buried in Alexandria**; his body was then transferred to Italy. In 1973, Pope Shenouda III (Coptic Orthodox Church) met with Pope Paul VI and Athanasius' relics were restored to Egypt.

**T**his year, *NC Catholics* is exploring Christology – the study of Jesus Christ. We asked several eminent seminary professors some questions about Jesus. Their answers are enlightening and thought-provoking.

## Meet the professors



Father Acklin



Father Muller



Father Stevens

▶ **Father Thomas Acklin** is a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa. He is a graduate of Duquesne University, St. Vincent Seminary, The Catholic University of Louvain and Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Institute.

▶ **Father Earl Muller** is The Bishop Kevin M. Britt Professor of Theology/Christology at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. He formerly taught at Marquette University in Wisconsin.

▶ **Father Gladstone Stevens** is on the faculty of St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.

**NCC: What does John mean when he calls Jesus "The Word"? How is that relevant to us?**

**Father Stevens:** There are so many ties to the Old Testament in this. The Jewish people became a nation after the Exodus, but it took more than just this event. The absence of slavery is not freedom. People need a shape, a form for their lives. The Torah did this for the Israelites – it gave them the Word. The giving of this word establishes the people. The Jewish imagination moved from that experience to the recognition that everything came from the word, *debar*. We are not created out of God's struggle with demonic forces,

**What is exegesis?** ĕk'-sə-jē'-sīs It means to draw out meaning from a text. Exegesis attempts to ex-



Heresy!

**Arianism: Jesus not human or divine**

►► This is the granddaddy of the early church's heresies about the nature of Jesus Christ. It was pervasive, with a huge following — some scholars think it almost carried the day. Arianism is a system of thought based on the teachings of Arius of Alexandria. Arius believed that God the Father embodied the only true divine nature. He was too pure to appear on earth — and so he created Jesus as the first and best of all things in the cosmos. Like the adoptionists, Arius held that the Son was not of the nature of the Father, he was adopted. Some of his followers also believed that the Son created the Holy Spirit in the same way.

This heresy occasioned the first great ecumenical council, that of Nicea, in 325, where Arianism was condemned. Its chief opponent was St. Athanasius. The statement of beliefs that was developed at Nicea is recited the world over at Sunday Mass — it is called The Nicene Creed.

not a people built on the body of a slain dragon, but rather the loving creation of God's spoken word. Whenever God speaks, he creates something new. When he speaks to a prophet, that person becomes a prophet. The word from which everything came is not an impersonal word — it is the Word, the son of God.

**Father Acklin:** There are three personifications of God in the Old Testament: word, wisdom and spirit. They are not yet fully re-

vealed as persons. The Word, as we find out in John's Gospel, is the Son of God. Through him all things are made. In the Old Testament, the spirit of the Lord descends upon a prophet or king. But in the New Testament, it is revealed that the Holy Spirit and Jesus are individual and divine persons. John makes it particularly clear that the Word is the Son who comes from the Father. This is the mystery of the Trinity — God is, in himself, a communion of love. Our one God is a commu-

John makes it particularly clear that the Word is the son who comes from the father. this is the mystery of the Trinity — God is, in himself, a communion of love.



what does that symbol mean?

**Fish**

►► The fish is probably the oldest symbol used by the early Christians. The symbol derives from the letters of the Greek word for fish, *ichthys*, which are the first letters of the statement, *Iesous Christos Theou Ouiou Soter* (Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior).

nion of three individual hypostases. There are three individual divine persons, whose self-giving love to each other is totally given to the other in their respective ways: the Father eternally begetting, the Son eternally begotten and returning all to the Father, the Spirit saying nothing he does not hear from the Father and Son. The interpenetrating love is so total that they are perfectly one.

**Father Muller:** This particular identification of Jesus only occurs in the prologue of John's Gospel. It contains the echoes of the Old Testament's constant refrain: The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, to Isaiah, to all the prophets. If you look at the *Septuagint*, the Greek for that Old Testament experience is translated as, "The word became." It's that language that John picks up in his Gospel. In saying this, I differ from what some older scriptural exegetes saw: an infusion of Hellenistic philosophy. I think John is summarizing and integrating the Old Testament in his reference to the Word. "The Word became flesh" is an interesting statement, because the first mention of flesh in Scripture is the story of Adam and Eve — "flesh of my flesh and bone of my bone." It's as if John is saying that Jesus entered into a nuptial relationship with his people.

— Elizabeth Solsburg

**Bible Quiz**

Judge, prophet, composer. who am I?

I am one of the famous Judges of Israel (you know, the ones the book in the Bible is written about) and I was famous for my prophecies. I called forth General Barak to lead the Israelites in battle against the opposing general, Sisera. But I knew Barak

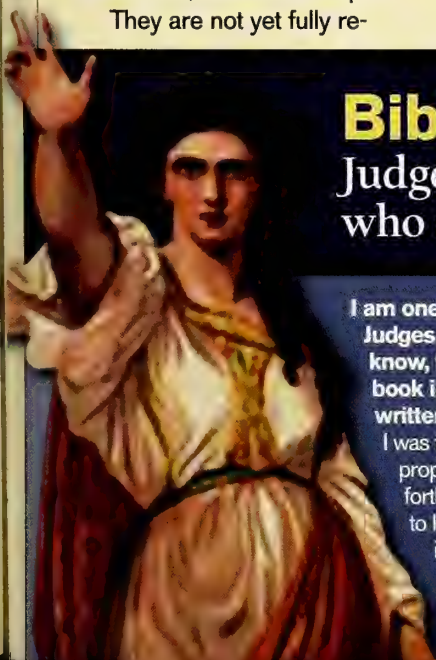
wouldn't be responsible for the final victory — another Israelite took care of that while Sisera slept.

My song is one of the oldest parts of the Bible, and I think it's beautiful poetry.

Unlike judges today, who have to sit in stuffy robes in a stuffier courtroom, I delivered my judgments beneath a palm tree in Ephraim. And, oh, yes, sometimes I am called the "mother of Israel."

Who am I?

►► Turn to page 27 for the answer





# Saint Romuald

how a duel sent him into solitude

## Saint Romuald

**Birthplace:** Ravenna, Italy

**Feast Day:** June 19



**Claim to fame:** Born to Italian nobility, Romuald enjoyed the pleasures of his family's wealth and position during his early years. His life shifted dramatically, however, after he watched his father kill a relative in a duel over property. Overcome with shame by his father's actions, Romuald withdrew to the monastery of St. Apollinare to serve penance for his father's sin as if it were his own. There, Romuald embraced the monastic life and sought an even more austere existence than the one practiced by the Benedictine monks. After several years of devoted study and prayer, he was made an abbot. But when he attempted to impose his stricter discipline on the monks, they strongly resented his reforms. Romuald left to wander the mountains in solitude.

**Why he is a saint:** After establishing several small hermitages, he embarked on a mission to evangelize the pagans of Hungary. But his journey was interrupted by sickness. Convinced his illness was a sign that God wanted him to remain in Italy, Romuald returned to his homeland. He traveled extensively through the country's central and northern regions, establishing hermitages and attracting disciples along the way.

**Best quote:** In 1005, Romuald went to Val-di-Castro for about two years. When he left, he prophesied that he would return to die there alone and unaided.

**How he died:** He built more hermitages in the mountains before retiring to his cell at a monastery he had founded in the Val-di-Castro. As he predicted, he died alone in his cell on June 19 in about the year 1027.

**Prayer:** *Dear Father, as St. Romuald searched for solitude in which to serve you, may I always make quiet time in my busy life to serve you, too. For you are the great Creator, and the one who will bring me peace. May I do your will in my everyday life, and through my deeds, show your love to others. For you are our salvation. Amen.*

— Elizabeth Johnson

## San Romualdo

**Lugar de nacimiento:** Ravenna, Italia

**Día del santo:** 19 de junio

**Lo que lo hizo famoso:** Nacido en la nobleza italiana, en sus primeros años de vida Romualdo disfrutó de los placeres que le brindaban la riqueza y posición de su familia. Sin embargo, su vida cambió dramáticamente cuando vio a su padre matar a un pariente en un duelo relacionado con una disputa de propiedades. Abrumado por la vergüenza de las acciones de su padre, Romualdo se retiró al monasterio de San Apolinario para hacer penitencia por el pecado de su padre como si hubiera sido el suyo propio. Allí, Romualdo abrazó la vida monástica y se abocó a llevar una existencia aún más austera que la de los monjes Benedictinos. Fue nombrado abad luego de varios años dedicados al estudio y a la oración. Pero cuando intentó imponer su estricta disciplina, los otros monjes se sintieron muy contrariados por sus reformas y Romualdo se fue para vagar solitariamente por las montañas.

**Lo que lo hizo santo:** Luego de establecer varias hermitas pequeñas, se embarcó en la misión de evangelizar a los paganos de Hungría, pero su viaje fue interrumpido por enfermedad. Convencido de que su enfermedad era una señal de Dios que quería que él permaneciera en Italia, Romualdo volvió a su tierra natal. Viajó extensamente por las regiones central y norte del país, estableciendo hermitas y atrayendo discípulos en el camino.

**Su mejor cita:** En el año 1005, Romualdo fue a Val-Di-Castro donde se quedó por aproximadamente dos años. Cuando salió de Val-Di-Castro, profetizó que volvería allí a morir solo y sin ayuda.

**Forma en la que murió:** Construyó más hermitas en las montañas antes de retirarse a su celda en un monasterio que había fundado en Val-Di-Castro. Como había predicho, Romualdo murió solo en su celda el 19 de junio de aproximadamente el año 1027.

**Oración:** *Querido Padre, así como San Romualdo buscó la soledad en la que servirte, haz que yo también siempre encuentre momentos de tranquilidad en mi vida de trabajo para servirte. Porque tú eres el gran Creador, y el que me traerá paz. Haz que yo haga tu voluntad en mi vida diaria, y que a través de mis hechos yo les muestre a los otros tu amor. Porque tú eres nuestra salvación. Amén.*

— Escrito por Transline USA



## The generosity of a saint

**F**or the last four years, I have led a pilgrimage for African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization to visit the motherhouses of congregations of women religious that were founded to work among African Americans. Among these congregations are the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament.

The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament were founded by Mother Katharine Drexel at her family estate outside of Philadelphia, and dedicated to the education of Native Americans and African Americans. Mother Katharine was an heiress of the Drexel family – her father was a banker and philanthropist – and she spent her personal trust fund to help both of these communities.

One of Mother Katharine's most noted outreaches was the founding and financing of Xavier University in New Orleans. This university has an outstanding School of Pharmacy and a noted pre-med program. Both Catholics and non-Catholics from North Carolina have attended Xavier. At present, Father Marcos Leon is enrolled in the Black Studies Summer Institute there, working toward a master's degree.

Mother Katharine was also generous to the Church in North Carolina. Among her gifts was \$11,000 for the building of St. Mary Pro-Cathedral in Wilmington. This was a tremendous sum in the early 1900s, and it was given with the proviso that St. Thomas, which was the Pro-Cathedral at the time, be kept open for Black Catholics.

Among her other gifts were those to the parish in Newton Grove. When Father James Garneau was pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Newton Grove, a parish hall was built and named Drexel Hall to commemorate her generosity there and in the diocese.

Mother Katharine also opened a grammar school for black girls at the motherhouse of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. These students went on to become active contributors to their parishes in their adult years.

At Rock Castle in Virginia, Mother Katharine also founded two high schools, St. Emma Military Academy for boys and St. Frances Academy for girls. These institutions were in the mode of finishing schools and produced some outstanding graduates until the 1960s.

Graduates of these schools live here in our diocese, and they are positive contributors to our society and our churches.

– Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden



## Los emigrantes en nuestra Comunidad

**E**n estos días escuchamos sobre los procesos de migración, las expectativas de tantas familias ante lo que apruebe el Congreso de los Estados Unidos. La Iglesia Católica y las diferentes instituciones de servicio social protestan, se manifiestan y claman a Dios por una decisión justa a favor de los pobres y necesitados.

Otros en cambio, se han ocupado en intensificar la visión que todos los hispanos son migrantes indocumentados, personas al margen de la ley. Todo esto lleva a justificar las redadas y se siente cierto triunfalismo al despertar el terror en las comunidades hispanas.

Sabemos que a nivel político se ha pensado en la posibilidad de una amnistía, a nivel económico se ha medido el impacto de no contar con la fuerza de trabajo hispana, a nivel social algunos lo ven como problema y a nivel cultural no es atractivo para muchos comprender e integrar en la cultura americana este modelo.

No podemos olvidar que como católicos estamos llamados a darle la bienvenida a todos, sea de la cultura que sea; hable el idioma que hable o sea del país que sea. Estamos llamados a formar una sola comunidad con los mismos derechos y los mismos deberes.

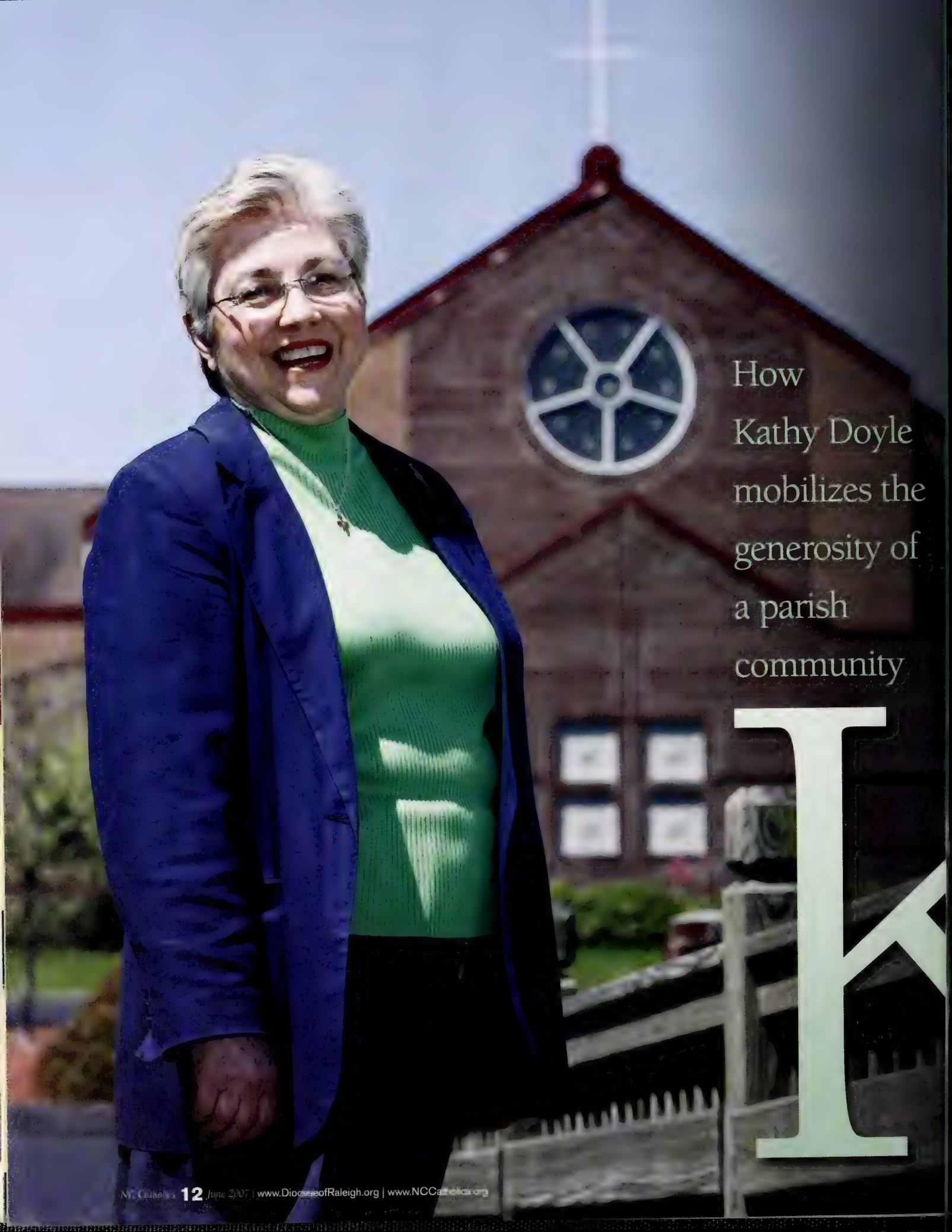
Por eso vale la pena pensar, meditar y orar no solamente por los miles que han cruzado la frontera por necesidad sino por los millones que han nacido como descendientes de todos los migrantes y tienen derecho y necesidad de tener una familia y una estabilidad económica y social para poder realizarse como personas y miembros de la sociedad.

Necesitamos pedir por los millones de niños y jóvenes que están marcados por el sólo hecho de haber nacido en otro país, pero que han crecido en este lugar y, seguramente no conocen otro lugar ni otra sociedad, pero que son rechazados ante la posibilidad de crecer, de ir a una universidad, de buscar un trabajo digno o ir a un hospital en caso de necesidad. Su gran cruz es no tener un número de Seguro Social.

Como católicos debemos hacer algo para ayudar a nuestro país a comprender que por ese camino no estamos construyendo futuro ni felicidad para nuestras comunidades. – Padre Fernando Torres







How  
Kathy Doyle  
mobilizes the  
generosity of  
a parish  
community

I



# “You just ask”

By Rich Reese | Pictures by CW Photography

Kathy Doyle, director of social ministries for St. Brendan the Navigator Parish in Shallotte, opens the door of a room off the foyer of the church. Inside, seven women are happily knitting and crocheting blankets and baby garments for the poor. For a moment, in that room, a visitor can feel the peace that comes with generous action. You can sense the same spirit – serenity combined with purpose – in St. Brendan’s food pantry, where “Loaves and Fishes” volunteers move efficiently, filling sacks with groceries for needy families.

As she talks about the various social outreach ministries at St. Brendan, Kathy’s enthusiasm for her work is apparent. Originally from Philadelphia, she and her husband went to the same grade school and were married in that parish. When the couple retired to Little River, SC, just across the border, they became St. Brendan parishioners. Kathy

had completed a degree in gerontology and was working at Coastal Carolina University when she was asked by the pastor to coordinate social ministries for the parish. Her familiarity with seniors was a plus: Almost two-thirds of St. Brendan’s members are over age 55. Most of them are retirees who have arrived in the area from points north. ■





**N**ot surprisingly, many of the ministries Kathy coordinates involve the elderly. A bereavement group meets monthly to console and to help with funeral planning. Twice a month, volunteers bring the “Brown Baggers,” homebound seniors, to the parish for lunch, dessert and bingo. There are regular visitors to one of the two nursing homes in the area, hospice volunteers who do respite and shopping for caregivers. The St. Joseph Society works with Brunswick County Senior Resources to do home repairs for the elderly. This year, the Parish Lenten Almsgiving project, christened “Home ‘Safe’ Home,” recounted true stories of the kind of dilemmas faced by the elderly poor and addressed by the St. Joseph Society:

### Generosity frees us

►► “Giving frees us from the familiar territory of our own needs by opening our mind to the unexplored worlds occupied by the needs of others.”

— Barbara Bush

*The hot water heater breaks; you buy a new one, but you can't afford a plumber to install it, so you go without hot water for three months.*

*A Category 1 hurricane rips some shingles off your roof. A roofing contractor is more than you can afford, so rain ruins rugs, ceilings and walls.*

*You are given an oil-filled electric space heater during a cold snap, but it blows a fuse each time it's turned on. An electrician is too expensive.*

The generosity of St. Brendan parishioners extends to all, however. The parish-supported Loaves and Fishes pantry has some 80 volunteers who do the tasks necessary to feed poor families in the area. “We got away from collecting canned goods and staples,” Kathy explains, “to asking for monetary donations, because we can buy the food much more cheaply than the donors.” In 2006, Loaves and Fishes spent \$55,518 to feed more than 13,000 people, 5,500 of whom were children. Volunteers from the parish also help staff the other food pantry in the area, sponsored by the Inter-Church Council.

When most North Carolinians think of Brunswick County, they think of the beach, the expensive homes along the shore and the manicured “plantations” where retirees live. But poverty is very real here, Kathy says. “You just need to travel down the dirt roads,” she says. “At one time, Loaves and Fishes delivered food (now the needy collect it at the pantry) and the trucks would get stuck in the mud.” Last year, St. Brendan assisted 190 families with electricity, rent and propane.

Kathy tells the story of a woman who was diagnosed with cancer and lost her job because she had to go into the hospital for treatment. “We helped with her rent and her medications, and eventually she was able to



► "We helped with her rent and her medications, and eventually she was able to go back to work. She told our volunteers, 'You helped me in the darkest time of my life.'"

go back to work. She told our volunteers, "You helped me in the darkest time of my life." Another woman, a teacher, was abandoned by her husband in June, when her wages stopped until the fall. St. Brendan took care of her rent for the summer.

Parish volunteers take lunches to Habitat for Humanity volunteers. They do gardening and landscaping, staff the parish library and gift shop and tutor children. Last November, a group from St. Brendan traveled north, in collaboration with Catholic Charities, to help feed relief workers after a devastating tornado.

Kathy recalls an effort that came to be called "David's Dream." David was one of the children of a family from Mexico who had applied to become U.S. citizens. Years into the waiting period, he turned 18, which meant he had to reapply. Meanwhile David had been a star student in high school. His dream was to become a doctor, and he was accepted into the pre-med program at Methodist University in Fayetteville, NC. Just short of graduation, he was \$3,000 short of the tuition needed to finish. St. Brendan raised the money; today David is in medical school.

How does a person in Kathy Doyle's position motivate people to share their time and talent? She lights up at the question.

"That's the interesting part!"

## Why give?

►► The biblical record and the life of Jesus clearly show that God chooses to stand with the poor. The Church, if it is to be faithful to the God of the Bible, also has to choose to be with the poor, not only by its words, but by its deeds. According to the words of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel (Matt. 25:31-46), our eternal destiny depends on this option.

— Marvin L. Krier  
Mick, *The Challenge and Spirituality of Catholic Social Teaching*



she says. "You just ask. And you say thank you."

A person joining St. Brendan will receive a stewardship form listing all the various ministries of the parish in which the new member can participate. A line

to which Kathy pays particular attention says "Retired from/Occupation/Talent." She keeps a file of people organized by talent and experience.

"For example," she says, "when the lady who tended our library moved to Florida, I had five people listed who had been school librarians or had other library backgrounds. I made one call and bingo!" The same thing happened when she needed someone to be in charge of the parish gift shop; she had four listings of people with retail management experience.

"I always ask in person," Kathy says, "and I always try to have three people covering each job, in case someone has an emergency. And it's amazing how people not only are happy to volunteer, but they really take ownership of their work. They come to me with wonderful stories of the people they meet in their ministries, and instead of being aware of the good work they do, they tell me, 'Thank you for letting me do this!'"

Periodically St. Brendan says

thank you to its volunteers. A recent Volunteer Appreciation Weekend included recognition by name in the parish bulletin and a wine and cheese reception after Sunday Mass. Volunteers also get free admission to

**"They come to me with wonderful stories of the people they meet in their ministries, and instead of being aware of the good work they do, they tell me, 'Thank you for letting me do this!'"**



the annual parish picnic.

Kathy thinks the demographic at St. Brendan is a factor in the willingness of parishioners to respond to the needs of others. "A lot of people get past 55 and they're looking for a new life. They've changed location physically and they're also ready to try something different in their lives, something outside the box." In an issue of *The Compass*, a newsletter Kathy publishes to keep parishioners aware of the needs and to tell stories about the accomplishments of its social ministries, this quote appeared: "Regret for things we did can be tempered by time. It is regret for the things we did not do that is insoluble." ☪







Como  
Kathy Doyle  
promueve la  
generosidad de  
una comunidad  
parroquial

# “Tan solo pregunta”

**K**athy Doyle, directora del Ministerio Social de la parroquia St. Brendan the Navigator, en Sayote, abre la puerta de un cuarto de la iglesia, dentro, siete alegres mujeres tejiendo, elaborando mantas y prendas de bebes para los más necesitados. Por un momento en ese cuarto, puedes sentir la paz que proviene de tan generosa causa. Se siente ese mismo espíritu de serenidad con propósito. En la distribuidora de alimentos de St. Brendan, los voluntarios de Loaves and Fishes, llenan bolsas con alimentos para familias necesitadas.

A medida que Kathy nos comenta acerca de los diversos ministerios sociales en St. Brendan, el entusiasmo por su trabajo se hace evidente. Originaria de Philadelphia, asistió a la misma escuela con su esposo y contrajeron matrimonio en aquella parroquia. La pareja se mudó a Little River, justo después de la frontera de Carolina del Sur y se hicieron miembros de la parroquia de St. Brendan. Kathy completó sus estudios en Gerontología y consiguió empleo en Coastal Carolina University, al poco tiempo, el pastor de aquel entonces, le pidió que trabajara como coordinadora

del ministerio social de la parroquia. Su confianza con las personas de la tercera edad sumó puntos a su favor, puesto que casi dos tercios de los miembros de ésta parroquia son mayores de 55 años.

Para nadie es sorpresa que muchos de los ministerios que Kathy coordina están relacionados con los ancianos. Muchos de estos grupos, como el encargado de ayudar a superar la muerte de algún ser querido, se reúne cada mes y asisten con los preparativos necesarios para funerales. Dos veces al mes, voluntarios traen a las personas discapacitadas de la tercera edad a la parroquia para

almorzar, disfrutar de un postre y jugar al bingo. Una de las casas de cuidados del área, reciben ayuda de visitantes que asisten regularmente a enfermos terminales, abasteciendo con las compras y sirviendo como colaboradores auxiliares. La sociedad de St. Joseph trabaja en conjunto con el departamento de recursos para personas de la tercera edad del condado de Brunswick, con el fin de reparar las casas de los ancianos. Este año, el proyecto de beneficencia de la parroquia, bautizado como “Hogar, Salvo Hogar” cuenta historias reales de problemas que afrontan los ancianos de bajos recursos:

*Cuando el calentador de agua se daña; compras uno nuevo pero no puedes pagarle al plomero para que lo instale, entonces estás sin agua caliente por tres meses.*

*Un huracán de categoría 1 destruye el techo de tu casa; llamar a una compañía para reparar el techo, es más de lo que puedes pagar, entonces llueve y se arruinan las alfombras y las paredes de tu casa.*

*Te ofrecen un calentador de aceite durante una ola de frío, pero cada vez que lo enciendes, se le quema un fusible y no puedes pagar por un electricista.*

La generosidad de los miembros de la parroquia de St. Brendan es para todos y los 80 voluntarios de Loaves and Fishes, se encargan de hacer las tareas necesarias para alimentar a las familias pobres del área “Nosotros preferimos no recibir comida enlatada y productos de primera necesidad,” explica Kathy, “solo pedimos donaciones monetarias porque sabemos que nosotros podemos conseguir estos productos más económicamente que nuestros donantes” En el 2006,



Loaves and Fishes gastó \$55.518 dólares para alimentar a más de 13.000 personas, incluyendo 5.500 niños. Los voluntarios de la parroquia, además ayudan a abastecer la otra distribuidora del área, patrocinada por el consejo interno de la Iglesia.

Cuando le hablas del condado de Brunswick a los residentes de Carolina del Norte, les viene a la mente el mar, las costosas viviendas a lo largo de la orilla de la playa y las plantaciones donde viven las personas jubiladas. No obstante, la pobreza aquí es seria, explica Kathy: "Solo necesitas viajar por los caminos de tierra." Además agregó que "una vez Loaves and Fishes repartía alimentos, ahora los más necesitados los pasan buscando por la distribuidora, porque los camiones se pegaban en el lodo." El año pasado St. Brendan ayudó a 190 familias con electricidad, el alquiler de la vivienda y gas propano.

Kathy cuenta la historia de una mujer diagnosticada con cáncer que perdió su trabajo por asistir al hospital para recibir tratamiento: "La ayudamos con el pago del alquiler, sus medicamentos y con el tiempo se reincorporó al trabajo." Ella agradeció a los voluntarios con las siguientes palabras: "Ustedes me ayudaron en el peor momento de mi vida." En junio, una maestra, sufrió el abandono de su esposo y St. Brendan pagó el alquiler de su vivienda durante el verano.

Asimismo, los voluntarios de la parroquia les llevan el almuerzo a los voluntarios de Hábitat para la Humanidad, donde trabajan en jardinería, en la biblioteca, en la tienda de recuerdos y brindan tutoría a los niños. El noviembre pasado, un grupo de St. Brendan viajó hacia el norte en colaboración con el centro católico de caridad (Catholic Charities,) para ayudar a las víctimas del tornado en Riegelwood.

Kathy recuerda el esfuerzo de

uno de los niños de una familia mexicana que estaba en el proceso de convertirse en ciudadano americano, pero pasaron los años y pronto cumplió los 18 años, y de nuevo, tuvo que comenzar todo el proceso de ciudadanía. David fue un estudiante brillante durante la secundaria y siempre soñó con ser doctor. Lo aceptaron en la escuela de premedicina de la Universidad Metodista de Fayetteville, en Carolina del Norte, pero le hacían falta \$3.000 dólares para terminar la universidad. St. Brendan hizo una recaudación de dinero para pagarle el resto de la universidad a David y hoy en día, el asiste a la escuela de medicina. A esta causa se le dio el nombre de "El Sueño de David."

¿Cómo hace una persona en el lugar de Kathy Doyle para incentivar a otros a compartir su tiempo y talento?

"¡Eso es lo más interesante!" comenta. "Tan solo pregunta y da las gracias."

La persona que desea integrarse a la parroquia de St. Brendan recibe una planilla con una lista de varios ministerios en el cual puede participar. Kathy hace más énfasis en la siguiente pregunta: "Jubilado/Profesión/talento" porque ella elabora un archivo organizado por el tipo de talento y experiencia de la persona.

"Cuando la señora encargada de la biblioteca se mudó a Florida, ya tenía a 5 personas en una lista que habían trabajado alguna vez como bibliotecarias en escuelas o tenían cierta experiencia en este campo, solo hice una llamada y ¡Bingo!" comentó. Lo mismo ocurrió cuando necesitaba a una persona que se hiciera cargo de la tienda de recuerdos; ya tenía a cuatro personas con este tipo de experiencia en la lista.

"Siempre trato de preguntar en persona y de tener a tres suplentes para cada trabajo, en caso que se presente alguna eventualidad.

## La caridad nos libera

►► La caridad nos libera del territorio donde nos sentimos seguros de nuestras necesidades y nos abre la mente hacia un mundo desconocido lleno con la necesidad otros. - Barbara Bush

### ¿Dar?

Los archivos bíblicos y la vida de Jesús muestran claramente que la preferencia de Dios es estar al lado del más necesitado. La iglesia, si es de ser fiel al Dios de la Biblia, también tiene que preferir estar con los más necesitados, no solo con sus palabras, pero en sus escrituras. De acuerdo con la palabra de Jesús en el evangelio de Mateo (Mateo. 25:31-46), nuestro destino eterno depende de esta opción.

- Marvin L. Krier Mich, The Challenge and Spirituality of Catholic Social Teaching

Es impresionante como la gente no solo está feliz de trabajar como voluntario, pero se toman con mucha seriedad su trabajo. Siempre se acercan a mi para relatarme las maravillosas historias de las personas que conocen en los ministerios, en vez de darse cuenta del buen trabajo que realizan, me dan las gracias por haberles dado la oportunidad."

A menudo la parroquia de St. Brendan agradece a sus voluntarios. En el más reciente fin de semana de agradecimiento al voluntario (Volunteer Appreciation Weekend) se incluyeron los nombres de los voluntarios en el boletín de la parroquia y se les ofreció una fiesta con vino y queso después de la Misa del domingo. Los voluntarios además reciben entrada gratis al picnic que celebran cada año en la parroquia.

Kathy piensa que la buena voluntad de los miembros de la parroquia de St. Brendan, es factor importante a la hora de responder con las necesidades de los demás. "Muchas personas son mayores de 55 años de edad y ya quieren hacer algo diferente con sus vidas, algo fuera de lo común." En un número del boletín informativo The Compass, Kathy publicó acerca de la importancia de mantener a los miembros de la parroquia informados con las necesidades y las historias de logros de cada uno de los ministerios, "Arrepentirse de las cosas que hacemos puede menguarse con el tiempo, pero arrepentirse por las cosas que dejamos de hacer puede ser inconsolable." ☺



## De tu experiencia con matrimonios, ¿Qué opinas con respecto a los factores que contribuyen a un matrimonio estable?

**H**e sido padre por 20 años y he servido dos años y medio como vicario parroquial (lo que nosotros llamábamos pastor asociado) y veintiún años y medio como pastor. Veintitrés años de mi vida he estado muy involucrado con el Tribunal (tres años como abogado, tres como defensor del vínculo y diecisiete años como vicario judicial) El tribunal, es la corte judicial de la Iglesia encargada principalmente de las declaraciones de anulación de un matrimonio.

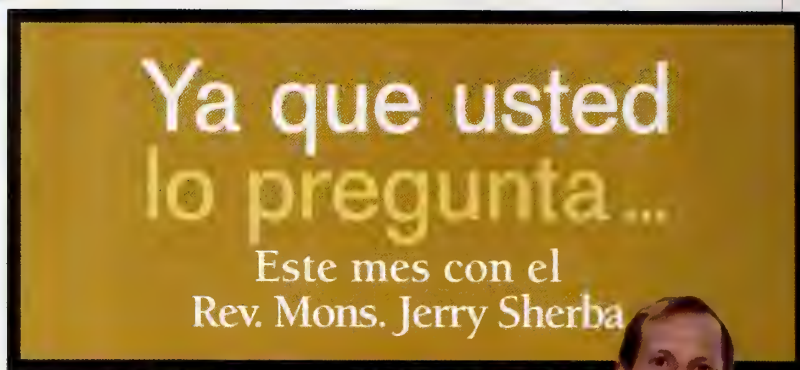
A través de los años, he tenido la alegría de compartir muchas horas con parejas que planean casarse y muchas otras, trabajando en casos de parejas que han fracasado en su matrimonio. Cada pareja es única; cada una de ellas tiene sus propias expectativas y necesidades, sueños e ilusiones diferentes. Igualmente, he visto muchas parejas con ganas de pasar el resto de sus vidas juntos, al igual que también he sido testigo del destroz de esos sueños y esperanzas.

A pesar de que la Iglesia Católica nos enseña la indisolubilidad del matrimonio, es cierto que muchos matrimonios fracasan. En la Sociedad de Estados Unidos de hoy, así como muchos matrimonios católicos fracasan, también fracasan los del público en general. El tribunal, aunque es un sistema judicial basado en leyes y regulaciones que se deben cumplir, es el brazo compasivo de la iglesia: llegando a aquellos que por alguna u otra razón, han experimentado el desengaño del divorcio y les gustaría regresar a la Iglesia a participar por completo de la eucaristía.

¿Cuál es la razón para que un matrimonio perdure o fracase? No existe una respuesta sencilla para esto. Sin embargo, hay muchos factores que considero, ayudan a que una pareja viva verdaderamente la vocación del matrimonio.

**1 Comunicación:** El 95% de los problemas maritales son a causa de falta de comunicación. Las parejas necesitan compartir sus sueños y esperanzas; sus miedos y preocupaciones. Esto puede sonar elemental, pero ningún conyugue debe asumir que la otra persona es su alma gemela. Esto no "ocurre" de repente, esto toma tiempo, esfuerzo y dedicación. No tengan miedo de compartir sus sentimientos acerca de cualquier cosa.

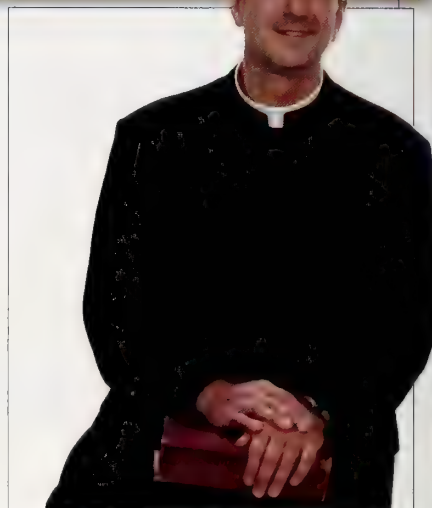
**2 Dedicarse tiempo:** En nuestra sociedad que está en constante movimiento, todos necesitamos tiempo para rejuvenecer, y esto se aplica a muchas parejas, dedicarse tiempo para estar con cada uno: entre comidas, tiempo de recreación, etc, es tan importante como ir a trabajar o sentarse a discutir presupuestos, viajes o desarrollo profesional.



**3 Expresar amor:** A pesar de que esto también parece elemental, a través de los años, damos por sentado que "ella sabe que la amo" o "yo sé que él sabe como me siento" pudo haber sido cierto al comienzo del matrimonio, pero no tan cierto a medida que pasan los años. La expresión que dice "los pequeños detalles significan mucho" es más cierta de lo que nos gustaría admitir, sin embargo, son esos pequeños detalles que hacemos por nuestra pareja los que suman puntos; como comprarle algo que le guste o compartir una comida favorita, son puntos a favor. Otros pequeños detalles como: nunca recoger la ropa del otro, tomarse demasiado tiempo en el baño, nunca ayudar con los quehaceres del hogar, son puntos a favor para un posible desastre.

Hay tres frases que nunca pasan de moda, pero se nos olvidan al pasar de los años: "Gracias" "lo siento" y "te amo". No solo necesitamos escuchar estas frases, del mismo modo necesitamos verbalizarlas, expresarlas desde nuestros corazones, para demostrarle al otro cuanto significan para nosotros. Cuando nos sentimos necesitados, hacemos un esfuerzo mayor para dar lo mejor de nosotros.

**4 Orar por nuestra pareja:** La oración significa pasar tiempo con Dios, no es solo nuestro tiempo individual con Él, más bien, es un momento especial con Dios y la persona que



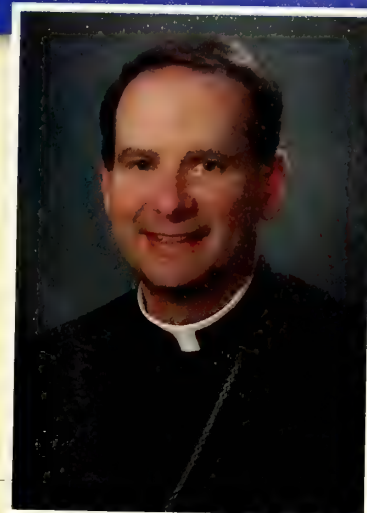
►► Cada pareja es única; cada una de ellas tiene sus propias expectativas y necesidades, sueños e ilusiones diferentes.

amamos. En el día de la boda, la relación comienza con una oración en comunidad, congregados en la Iglesia para estar en familia y amigos, quienes a su vez, oran por ustedes y con ustedes. Compartir tiempo con el conyugue en oración todos los días, es tan importante como: Cultivar el regalo recibido por Dios de su amor por ustedes, pidiendo así por Su sabiduría, guía y bendición a medida que ustedes comienzan y terminan el día con un matrimonio más fortalecido. Todos estos factores ayudan a vivir plenamente el sacramento que decidieron aceptar con amor el día de su matrimonio. ☺

— Reverendo Monseñor Girard M. Sherba, J.C.D., Ph.D., es rector de la Catedral del Sagrado Corazón y Vicario Judicial de la Diócesis de Raleigh.



**E**ste año en NC Catholics, hemos conocido los frutos del Espíritu Santo. En ésta edición, trataremos sobre la generosidad. En nuestra cultura, es fácil pensar en dinero como sinónimo de generosidad e indudablemente la gente suele ser muy generosa. Por ejemplo, los católicos de la Diócesis de Raleigh aportaron una generosa cantidad este año durante la Convocatoria Anual del Obispo. Esa contribución, de un total de \$5.8 millones de dólares, hará posible muchos de los programas de la Diócesis al servicio del Pueblo de Dios a lo largo de la parte Este de Carolina del Norte. Estoy muy agradecido por tan generoso aporte.



Sin embargo, éste peculiar fruto del Espíritu Santo que llamamos generosidad, nos permite una más intensa reflexión. Debemos entender que el Espíritu Santo está presente entre nosotros en todo momento. Si permitimos la guía y la orientación del Espíritu Santo, nuestras vidas contribuirán buenos frutos.

Unos de estos frutos es la generosidad. Es el regalo de Dios, quien es la generosidad personificada. Solo observa el universo que Dios ha creado, la maravilla del ser humano y la belleza de la creación en nuestro alrededor, para percibir algunas formas de la generosidad de Dios. Indiscutiblemente, el regalo más generoso de Dios es su hijo Jesucristo, quien vertió su vida entera por la redención del mundo a través de la pasión, muerte y resurrección. Cuando hacemos uso de nuestra generosidad, nos convertimos en un reflejo de nuestro Dios en cuya imagen y semejanza fuimos creados. Él dio su vida a cambio de nuestra Salvación para que todo viva por siempre.

La generosidad es la ofrenda de nuestros propios regalos. En abril, la misión católica parroquial de Raleigh, celebró su trigésimo aniversario, y por 30 años ininterumpidos, ha proporcionado alimentos y vestido a los más necesitados; de esta manera, se ha convertido en la distribuidora de alimentos más grande de Raleigh, con 250 voluntarios al servicio del pobre.

Este mes, cuatro hombres ofrecerán sus vidas al servicio de Dios. Dos de ellos, Anthony DeCandia y Marco Gonzáles, ofrecerán sus vidas al Pueblo de Dios en la Diócesis de Raleigh a través del servicio bondadoso del sacerdocio. Luego, a final de mes, Romen Acero y Michael Suppr, serán ordenados al diaconado de transición de la Diócesis. Las vidas de estos hombres serán consagradas a Dios en un acto de generosidad para que todo el que viva en la diócesis reciba el abundante fruto espiritual en sus propias vidas. Me llena de alegría su generosidad y mi oración diaria está dirigida a que cada vez más

## El lado de la generosidad

**Cuando ofrecemos nuestras vidas al servicio de Dios, Él produce abundantes frutos en y a través de nosotros.**

personas se unan al servicio generoso del sacerdocio, incluyendo a que más hombres y mujeres escuchen el llamado del Señor y respondan al servicio de la Iglesia como religiosos consagrados.

Cada día ustedes hacen numerosos sacrificios en respuesta generosa y de fe de su vocación particular en la vida. Cuando ofrecemos nuestras vidas al servicio de Dios, Él produce abundantes frutos en y a través de nosotros.

El Señor les de perseverancia y permita que cada gesto de generosidad sirva de inspiración a otros y María nuestra madre, cuyo acto de generosidad fue el entregar su vida entera a Dios, los cuide y proteja por siempre.

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh



### DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

St. Paul the Apostle is a community that is committed to Intergenerational Catechesis and is seeking an experienced

Director of Faith Formation. The position will be open as of July 1, 2007. Candidate must be a practicing Catholic with a master's degree in Catholic theology and a minimum of five years pastoral experience. Send resume and references to:

Susie Barnes, St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, 2715 Horse Pen Creek Rd, Greensboro, NC 27410; fax (336) 294-6149; e-mail [sbarnes@stpaulcc.org](mailto:sbarnes@stpaulcc.org).



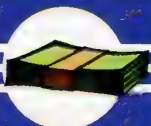
romance



**The couple that prays together ...**

► When going to church, we may not always be mindful of how our marriage sacrament is alive to others. If possible, avoid sitting in the pew as "bookends," separated with your children between the two of you. Sit next to each other, side-by-side. Hold hands as you pray and sing together.

money



**Acquaint yourself with your finances**

► Both partners in a marriage should know the ins and outs of the joint finances. Make sure you know what's in your accounts, what your household debts are, and where all the important papers are. Consider a folder labeled "important stuff" containing account numbers, passwords and insurance information.



# He said She said what do they do?

**D**awn and Sam have been married for 15 years. They have three children under the age of 14. Sam's mother is widowed and has some health problems. Sam wants her to move in.

## I want my mother to move in

**he says**

worry about her living alone now that my dad is gone. I believe families should stick together and take care of each other, so I'd like her to live with us. We have room, as long as two of the kids share. This is my mother we're talking about; I can't believe Dawn doesn't understand why we should ask her to move here.

**Sam says:**

My mom is a diabetic and I

## I don't

**she says**

and could live on her own quite easily. And we hardly have any time to ourselves as it is, after

**I know Sam loves his mother, but she is not the easiest woman to get along with ...**

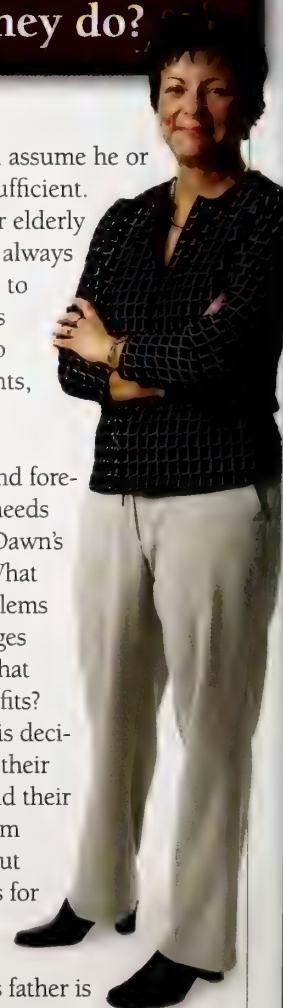
but she is not the easiest woman to get along with, believe me. I don't think I can deal with two women in the same household.

**Dawn says:**

Sam's mom is not an invalid, we've taken care of the kids. I know Sam loves his mother,

granted and assume he or she is self-sufficient. In caring for elderly parents, we always need to talk to our partners and listen to their thoughts, feelings and needs.

So, first and foremost, Sam needs to listen to Dawn's concerns: What are the problems and challenges she sees? What are the benefits? How will this decision impact their home life and their children? Sam can talk about his concerns for mom and his feelings now that his father is



**expert says**

Intergenerational care-taking is becoming a hot topic in many families. We have all heard about the "sandwich generation" – those who have elderly parents and are still caring for children.

In a family, the core unit is the marriage – it is the heart and stabilizing force. Couples should prioritize this important relationship always. This is easier said than done. Often, we take our spouse for



not there to care for her. I would also encourage Sam to talk to any other siblings in his family who could help ensure their mom's safety and well-being. It's possible that some of his brothers or sisters may feel the same worry and together they can ensure Mom's health and safety and not overburden one child/family. Having a relative move in to your household is not a decision to be taken lightly. Dawn's concerns of getting along and two women in a household are very valid and need to be discussed thoroughly. Is there a solution to this issue that will create a win-win solution? Helping his mom at the cost of a marriage does not seem like a win-win answer. It's important that the couple work as a team. Remember, the marital relationship is priority.

Another very important step is to talk to Mom. What is she thinking and feeling? Does she think she needs help? Often, elderly people do not agree with their families about what should be done for them. They want to remain independent for as long as possible. Often, with a minimal amount of support from us, our loved ones can remain independent and are usually happier. The first step is to do an objective assessment of what Mom needs help with. She should be included in this assessment. It is not helpful for Mom to feel overlooked or ignored in this process. She will be more willing to accept needed help if she is respected in this process, and this means treating her like an adult. She should make her own decisions if possible.

There are many alternative answers to this issue without Sam's mom moving in with Dawn and Sam.

## communication



## Good marriage

► While it's important to do things as a couple, you also need to develop interests of your own. By spending time on your hobbies, reading or community activities, you enrich your creativity and gain something new to talk about with your spouse!

## time



## It's about time..!

► Make loving memories, not misery. Spouses make a choice each time they are together. It is either a choice to make loving memories of how God has blessed you with your spouse, or it is a choice to focus on the rough and bumpy road behind us, with us, and stretching out in front of us. God gave us a free will to make the choice. Loving memories take less effort to maintain.

## I once was lost

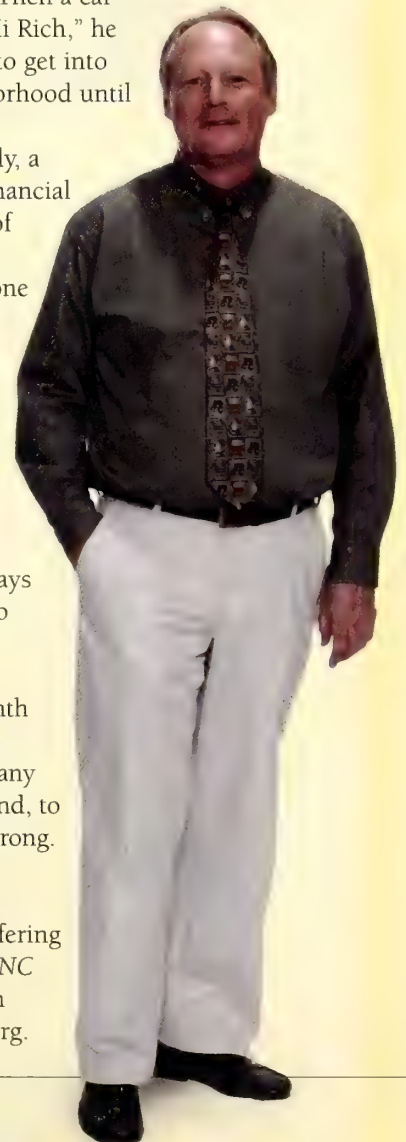
**T**wo years ago, when I was new to Raleigh, I had to cover an event at a church in a residential part of the city. As frequently happened in those days, I got lost looking for the church, and by the time I arrived the parking lot was full. I cruised the neighborhood, also crowded with cars, looking for a spot on the street, parked quickly, then ran several blocks in the spring heat to arrive, out of breath and perspiring, just as the ceremony started.

An hour later, I came back into the bright sunlight and tried to remember where I'd left my car. All the streets in the hilly neighborhood looked the same. I started walking down one of them, without much hope, thinking, "This is going to take a long time." Then a car slowed alongside. It was Bishop Gossman. "Hi Rich," he said with a smile, "are you lost?" He told me to get into his car, then drove slowly around the neighborhood until I spotted mine.

We read often, especially in times of tragedy, a tsunami or a Katrina, of "big" generosity – financial and personal. Billions of dollars, thousands of relief workers – and despite all that's going wrong in the world, efforts like those make one hopeful about human nature. But it's often the little things that remind us most of the Spirit from which generosity springs. Things like a bishop helping out a newcomer or, as I experienced recently at a parish on the coast (see p. 12), a group of women knitting baby blankets or a volunteer gently taking information from a needy visitor to a food pantry. Something as simple as a smile that says to someone, "I recognize your need. I want to help."

This month, generosity is the theme of *NC Catholics*. Since June is also the traditional month for weddings, we've asked Msgr. Jerry Sherba, who, as a pastor and judicial vicar, has seen many marriages begin and many – unfortunately – end, to write about the factors that make a marriage strong. Not surprisingly, making time for one another – generosity – is one of those factors.

I'm always pleased by your generosity in offering ideas and feedback regarding the contents of *NC Catholics*. You can contact me at 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606 or [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).



– Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.





Well, the neighbor atheist overheard her prayer and had an idea. He would show the woman how silly it was to pray to God. He went out and bought her some groceries and put them on her doorstep. The next day, when she came to the door and saw all the groceries, she lifted her hands to heaven and shouted out, "Praise the Lord!"

The atheist neighbor who had waited for this moment with much glee stepped out from the pine tree in her yard and said, "There is no Lord to praise, hahaha! I bought those groceries myself and put them on your doorstep!" The little old lady, with an even larger smile on her face, raised her arms to the sky and said, "Praise the Lord! You sent me groceries and even made the devil pay for them!"

Once upon a time, an atheist moved in next to an elderly woman of deep faith. She was known for her generosity to the poor and her gratitude to God. Whenever she walked outside, she would lift her hands to heaven and say, "Praise the Lord!" and followed the praise with much thanksgiving. This is how she always started her day, and she spent her day doing good for others whenever she could. "Praise the Lord" was always on her lips. This irritated the atheist very much. Every time he heard her say this, he would yell back, "There is no Lord!" She was not discouraged. She kept praying and praising the Lord.

One day in the winter, she went outside and praised God for the snow, but she added, "Dear God, I thank you for your constant goodness to me. I know you take care of all my needs. I am hav-

ing trouble getting my groceries this week with all this snow but I trust you will send me what I need. Thank you Lord!"

# Let the river of generosity run through you

## how to have a generous spirit

God's generosity comes to us in many different ways, even through unbelievers and grouches! Yet we must acknowledge that it is far more beneficial to us if we willingly cooperate with God than to remain stingy, selfish or in unbelief. Many times, people refrain from doing good to others because they do not trust God enough. If they put themselves out, they worry about what will happen to them. Generosity may jeopardize their security. Jesus



told us not to worry. "Your Father in heaven knows what you need before you ask him." (Mt 6:8)

God invites us to join him in offering ourselves to others as a gift. Generosity is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. (cf Gal 5:22)

There are great graces in the river of generosity. When we jump in, we may find it uncomfortable at first; the current might be strong, and the water cold. We will be more vulnerable, less secure. But we are actually discovering that we were living in an illusion. Our security was being placed in things or in our bank accounts. Real security is in God. In time, as we grow in generosity we grow in trust. The more we give, the more we receive. God is even more present to us, for by the very act of giving we become more united to God who is perfect gift. We are not in the river, but are one with the river! We become one of the many currents and streams of this glorious river of generosity from God that gives life and healing to the whole world.

There are many generous people in the world. Some people have been blessed with great material wealth. Much is expected of those to whom much has been given.

Some people do not have a lot of money, but they make a sacrifice of their time to be with others. I know some young people who gave up a few years of time and went on missions to help spread the Gospel across the United States and in other countries. Every parish has its saints who are fountains of generosity and service. Day in and day out they serve the needy, the homebound, the ill, those in prison, the troubled and the lonely. They give one of the most precious gifts God has given us – time. God has promised if we give him time, he will give us eternity.

## How to grow in generosity of Spirit

**G**enerosity is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, so we must acknowledge clearly that it is a work of God's grace within us. However, we cooperate with the Holy Spirit. We let the river of grace flow through us. We remove the debris and clutter that can dam up the river, and then dive in. Don't hold back. Let go and jump in! You will find it a joyful swim.

Points to consider about generosity:

- **When you perform an act of generosity, do not be sad about it.** "Do away with miserliness and counting the cost." (St. Gregory Nazianzen)
- **Be ready to be generous at all times – especially when it is inconvenient.** Many saints have said that it is a good thing to interrupt a routine, or drop what you are doing – even if it is prayer – to help someone in need.
- **Err on the side of generosity.** Sometimes people will demand things of us, and even be ungrateful, and may be taking advantage of us. I remember the time when I bought a homeless man and woman a sandwich, chips and a Coke. When the man tasted the Coke, he grimaced. "What is this – diet?" Later on, he pulled out his cell phone, and seemed to be arranging his next meal. I had to laugh, for I am like that with God sometimes. There will be times when people will take advantage of us. Still, Jesus has told us to go the extra mile. Do good to others who cannot do good to you. We should never expect any return if we are being truly generous.
- **Watch out for pride.** Don't pat yourself on the back, or look for praise. You will have already received your reward.

## Exercises

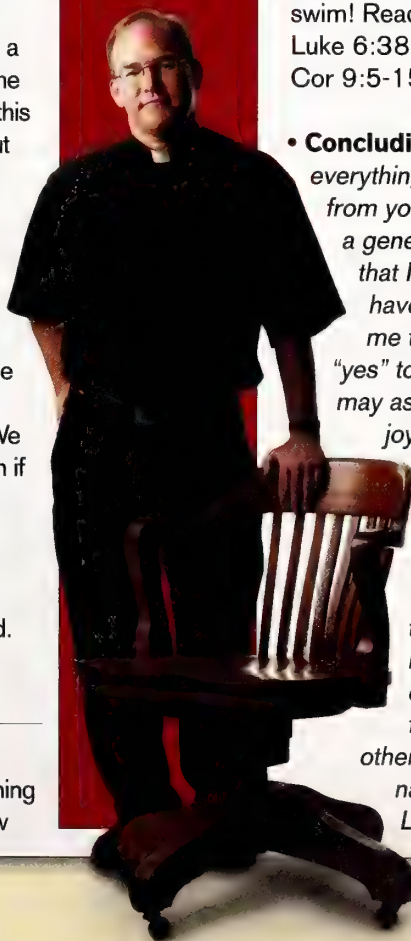
►► In this initial exercise, get in touch with the real truth concerning your practice of generosity. How

do you show generosity in your life? Do you do things expecting a return? Do you really let go and experience the joy of giving, or is there an attachment that remains that causes sadness? How frequent are your acts of generosity? Is there a flow of generosity coming from you? What blocks the flow? Is there fear? A love of money or things? Is there a lack of trust in God that God will provide for you? End the exercise by reading Matthew 6:19-34.

- Choose to be generous with the gift of your time, money, or abilities and do something today, even immediately after reading this. Give to the poor. Donate your time. Go the extra mile for someone in your life who already is demanding much of you. We will never grow in generosity if we do not practice it.
- Choose any of the following passages and meditate on them. Dive in and enjoy the swim! Read Mark 6:34-44; Luke 6:38; 2 Cor 8:2-21; 2 Cor 9:5-15; Ps 112.

• **Concluding prayer:** Lord, everything I have is a gift from you. Help me to make a generous offering of all that I am, and all that I have back to you. Give me the grace to say "yes" to you, whatever you may ask. May I discover joy in sacrificial giving and look at each moment of the day as a gift from you that opens up many opportunities to be generous in return. Let your river of generous love flow through me to others. I ask this in the name of Jesus my Lord. Amen.

Choose to be generous with the gift of your time, money, or abilities and do something today, even immediately after reading this.







### Bishop Burbidge speaks on Latino Day

▶▶ The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, has asked the North Carolina General Assembly to suspend all proposed state legislation connected with the issue of immigration. In remarks on the 3rd Annual Latino Day held at the Assembly, Bishop Burbidge said questions of immigration should be taken up nationally by Congress. "If this is not possible," the bishop added, "I ask that any legislation the General Assembly might consider in this term support the human dignity of all immigrants and their right to immigrate."

Bishop Burbidge noted the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has undertaken a national campaign "to find a just and humane solution to this issue." (See [www.justiceforimmigrants.org](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org).) He pointed out that while it "does not condone unlawful entry or circumventions to our nation's immigration laws," it does urge reform of our laws to respond to the labor demands of our nation and the right of people to immigrate.

The bishop expressed gratitude for the Latinos who have moved to North Carolina. "They have shown themselves to be hard workers and to possess strong family values," he said. "I am here to voice my support for them."

### Ugandan cardinal to visit diocese

▶▶ Emmanuel Cardinal Wamala, archbishop emeritus of Kampala, Uganda, will visit the Diocese of Raleigh from June 27-29. On the 28th, he will attend Mass and a luncheon at Sacred Heart Church, Pinehurst. That evening he will have dinner with Bishop Burbidge. On June 29, he will attend a 7p.m. Mass and reception at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

### Change in date, place for White Mass

▶▶ The White Mass, which Bishop Burbidge will celebrate for the medical profession, has been rescheduled from its previously announced date and location. The Mass will be celebrated on October 27, 2007 at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The time is still 10am, and a reception will follow in the parish hall.

### Catholic Parish Outreach: 30 years of giving

▶▶ Catholic Parish Outreach of Raleigh (CPO) celebrated its 30th Anniversary on April 25 with a dinner honoring its volunteer workers. The event attracted more than 200 people, including Bishop Michael F. Burbidge and Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker.

CPO was started in 1977 by five Catholic parishes in Raleigh and Garner to provide food and direct assistance to the needy of Wake County. It began with a few volunteers working from a former barber-shop in southeast Raleigh. Today CPO inhabits a 5,000-square-foot office/warehouse complex off I-440 in east Raleigh and utilizes more than 250 regular volunteers. Another 500 volunteers step forward once or twice a year to assist with special projects.

Last year, CPO provided more than 500 tons of groceries to approximately 50,000 people in Wake County. A large percentage of the food comes from the Food Bank and the Interfaith Food Shuttle. The rest is purchased. Financial support is provided by parishes in the Raleigh Deanery, many of which take up a monthly collection to support the agency.

In his comments, Mayor Meeker recognized the efforts of so many people, saying that "volunteer work and volunteer efforts are something special that make our community what it is." The mayor then presented CPO with The President's Volunteer Service Award, given by the President's Council on Services and Civic Participation. The award is signed by President Bush.

Bishop Burbidge spoke of his visit to Catholic Parish Outreach shortly after he arrived in North Carolina. He said he was touched by watching the volunteers and knowing all the people who would be served by their goodness. He recalled the liturgies during Holy Week, noting the Mass on Holy Thursday, when there is a re-enactment of Jesus' "profound gesture" when he washed the feet of the disciples.

"He knew he was Lord of all, but instead of power, he showed humility and instead of being served, he served," the bishop said. "All of us who seek to be his followers and to be his witnesses must be willing to do the same."

Special recognition was given to individuals who were instrumental in the mission of Catholic Parish Outreach through the years, including Carol Almasay, CPO's first director; Bob McBride, who served as director from 1987-2004; and Rita Such, a key figure from the beginning, who now serves as the agency's historian.

Also recognized were Rick Miller-Haraway, Raleigh regional director of Catholic Charities, and Kathleen Walsh, diocesan director of Catholic Charities. Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh operates Catholic Parish Outreach.

In her remarks, Terry Foley, the director of Catholic Parish Outreach, told the gathering how proud she was to work in a place where "miracles happen every day!"







## Penny Challenge

Students at Cardinal Gibbons Catholic High School in Raleigh raised \$33,000 in one week for 15 selected charities through this year's Penny Challenge, a competitive fundraiser among the four classes organized by the Gibbons Theology Department. At left representatives of the winning sophomore class present a check to one of this year's beneficiaries, The Healing Place, a nonprofit rescue, recovery and rehabilitation facility for homeless people in Wake County. From left: sophomores Lindsey Byrd and Victoria Kosciuszko; Jason D. Curtis, principal of Cardinal Gibbons; sophomore Thomas Lotrecchiano; Susanne Hayes, chairman, board of directors, The Healing Place; Kyle M. Szulik, member of the board of directors, The Healing Place; and Jo Lawson, director, Women's Program at The Healing Place.



## 500 attend hispanic youth Encuentro

Approximately 500 Hispanic teenagers and young adults, representing 24 parishes of the Diocese of Raleigh, attended the annual Encuentro, held at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh on April 14. The theme was *Ven y Sigueme* (Come and Follow Me).

The gathering celebrates the Hispanic presence in the diocese, and also provides a way to recognize parishes that create opportunities for Hispanic young people to become actively involved in their parish community and to live out their faith. Keynote speaker Leonardo Jaramillo, Hispanic youth minister in the Archdiocese of Atlanta, presented two reflections. Participants took part in several competitions, with St. Raphael Church in Raleigh winning the drama competition, Immaculate Conception in Durham the music event and Blessed Sacrament in Burlington being honored for designing the Encuentro logo.

Facilitators for the day-long event were Rubi Baltazar from Immaculate Conception Church in Clinton and Erick Perez Contreras from St. Therese Church in Wilson. The day was highlighted by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge.

## Middle school youth gather for Jamboree

Approximately 280 youth and adults took part in the annual Diocesan Jamboree for students in sixth through eighth grade on April 28 at Short Journey Retreat Center.

Participants represented more than 25 parishes throughout the diocese. The theme of this year's day-long Jamboree was "Can You Hear Me Now, God?"

Keynote speaker was Georgie Clemens, middle school youth minister from St. Thomas More in Chapel Hill. She spoke of the importance of listening to God, providing examples of how listening influenced her life. Students also took part in catechetical sessions with a focus on God's voice in Scripture as well as in our media culture. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge celebrated an outdoor Mass to conclude the event.

Middle school youth ministry is one of the fastest growing ministries in the diocese. The Diocesan Office of Youth Ministry announced a new program, called Faith Trax, which will begin this fall and is designed for students, their parents and adults who work with them.



On April 25, 75 donors, advisers and well wishers, including the mayor of Burlington, attended an open house for Catholic Charities' Latino Family Center in that city. Remodeled from a large garage/warehouse into a colorful office and educational space, the Center offers a full range of social services, including ESL classes. Pictured are Anne Stahel, Catholic Charities Board of Directors; Sue Gilbertson, Catholic Charities Piedmont Regional Director; and Jeremy Ireland, Director of the Family Center (Centro: La Comunidad).





## Pure Fashion showcases style and virtue

►► What's in style this season?

Bright colors, metallic accessories and polka dots on Bermuda shorts. Straw handbags and light, airy dresses. Dressed-up denim with appliquéd beads and feminine details.

What's also in style is virtue, and, unlike lace on denim, virtue never goes out of style. That's the message of the 'Pure Fashion' Show, held in Cary April 29 and featuring 41 local girls in eighth through 11th grades modeling not just fashion but the virtues of confidence, generosity, purity, authenticity and grace.

The impetus for the show — professionally staged and choreographed before an audience of 500 — came last April when a local group traveled to Atlanta for an annual event started seven years ago by mothers who wanted their daughters to see that *modest* is not synonymous with *frumpy*.

Ann Burt, who chaired the Raleigh event with Shelley Morrisette, was in that group and remembers knowing instantly that Raleigh needed to do this. "We were sitting in the audience," she said, "and we were so inspired, we just looked at each other and said, 'Raleigh needs this.'"

Just one year later, those women watched as the 41 models, sporting clothes from sponsors Dillard's and Palm Avenue and hairstyles from Tanas Hair Designs and Day Spa, marched down a runway, lit by the donated services of Creative Visions, Inc. with big smiles and girly twists.

Behind the evident self-confidence and poise, though, lurked something more fundamental: the knowledge that beauty does not come from skimpy tank tops and short shorts, but from being a representative of Christ in the world.

The message of Pure Fashion, according to its Web site at [www.purefashion.org](http://www.purefashion.org), is that "Happiness is...living a life of virtue." So while the models are trained in runway etiquette, hairstyling and makeup appli-

cation, color coordination and fashion basics, the end result is not just a fashion show, but a months-long process of formation and cultivation of virtues.

To be a model, the girls — both Catholic and Protestant — had to commit to six months of monthly formation sessions.

For instance, the December session featured a speaker on the importance of Advent and the preparation of hearts and souls for Christ's birth; the next month, the girls were treated to a day of beauty at Tanas that included a hair cut and style and professionally applied makeup. At other sessions, they learned the skill of public speaking, prepared food boxes for the poor in Honduras, listened to talks on authenticity, and had the opportunity to find out directly what guys really think about girls and how they dress.

Kathie Chatelain, a 10th grade student at St. Thomas More Academy in Raleigh, wanted to model in Raleigh after attending the Atlanta show. But on a grander scale, she wanted to make a difference. "It's really a cultural thing," she said. "We need this to happen. Frankly, the fashions in the culture stink. And even if what we do is small, it's still doing something."

The April 29 event was anything but small — and the work put into it by a core group of six women was not minimal. The sheer coordination of things — bringing in speakers, finding sponsors, coordinating the prom gown design and essay contest, organizing the silent auction, not to mention recruiting models and devising for them a program of formation for internal and

external beauty — took countless hours.

Emceeding the event was Rachel Lee Carter, the first runner-up in the Mrs. North Carolina Pageant in 2006 and a model for clients such as Cover Girl, Tommy Hilfiger and DKNY. Her ministry, "Modeling Christ," draws on her platform as a professional model to share the love of Christ within the fashion industry and to mothers, daughters and youth groups.

Reinforcing the message of modesty and purity were the featured speaker, Mike Long, and Joy Williams, a singer/songwriter with five Dove Award nominations. Long, based in Raleigh, is a pioneer in the abstinence education movement and trains educators and youth leaders on how to help teenagers deal with the problems of peer pressure, alcohol, drug abuse and sex.

He reminded the audience that God created us and he also created sexual intimacy — so who knows better how to use it than God? Encouraging the teens to seek a "path of sexual purity in an impure world," he underscored with parents their role in helping teens choose modesty and purity in a culture that sells sex.

To the fathers in the audience, he said, "Never let (your daughter) leave without telling her how much you love her and how beautiful she is — inside and out — because if you don't, someone else will."

Sponsored and supported by both the Diocese of Raleigh and the local Regnum Christi organization, the Pure Fashion Show included a letter of welcome from Bishop Michael Burbidge.

"It is heartening to know that young people are searching for ways to live in the modern world while retaining Christian values and virtues," he wrote. "The show will demonstrate how young women can be both modern and modest, contemporary but tasteful."

By next year, the Raleigh organizers want to double the number of attendees and increase the models to about 75. Girls can apply online at [www.purefashion.org](http://www.purefashion.org) starting this summer.

Of those who went through this year's program, Burt said, "We hope that they maybe have an eye-opening understanding now that they are special and unique and that God created them with a purpose."

— Dana Lorelle





## Father McCue appointed CGHS assistant principal

►► Father Scott E. McCue, pastor of St. Ann Catholic Church in Clayton, has been named assistant principal



for spiritual life at Cardinal Gibbons High School. Father Scott, who was appointed to the position by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, will be responsible for the Catholic identity of the college preparatory high school and the spiritual formation of its students. In addition, he will oversee all departments involved with spirituality, including the school's campus ministry division, liturgies and outreach initiatives.

"Our school community is truly blessed by the addition of Father Scott to our leadership team," said Jason D. Curtis, principal of Cardinal Gibbons. "His commitment to education and the youth of our diocese are gifts that will help us further advance our mission, especially in our growing campus ministry program."

Father Scott has been affiliated with the Diocese of Raleigh for the last 13 years, since 2003 as pastor of St. Ann. Prior to that, he was the administrator at St. Ann, and from 2001 to 2002 he served as parochial vicar of St. Thomas More in Chapel Hill, where his duties included teaching religion and administering the sacraments to the Hispanic community. Since 2003 Father Scott has also served as Catholic Scout chaplain for the diocese.

## Riegelwood relief project dedicated – more than \$100,000 to be distributed by Catholic Charities

► Last November 16, the second deadliest North Carolina tornado in 50 years devastated Riegelwood in Columbus County, NC, injuring 20 people, killing eight, including two children, and destroying or damaging some 35 homes. In the months since that tragedy, Catholic Charities, acting through its Cape Fear Regional Office, has been an integral part of the Riegelwood Disaster Relief Committee, an organized, cooperative effort to address the immediate and long-term needs of the tornado victims.

Catholic parishes and individuals have contributed \$110,781 to the effort. Catholic Charities disbursed some of these funds immediately to help families with food, clothing, shelter, furniture, gas cards for visits to hospitalized family members and, for some, funeral expenses. In addition, Catholic Charities distributed \$20,000 towards the rebuilding of one new home (contributing funds where the costs were not fully covered by insurance) and has pledged additional funds towards the rebuilding and repair of other homes. Parishes in the Cape Fear deanery have participated by providing meals for construction crews on the site. At this point, new homes have been built for five families whose homes were destroyed by the tornado. Funding in addition to insurance came from state emergency assistance funds, and donations from many generous individuals, groups, organizations, businesses and churches of all denominations.

Linda Pierce, Director of Catholic Charities' Cape Fear Regional office, praised the cooperation and ecumenical sense of mission that continues to characterize the Disaster Relief Committee. "It has been a humbling experience to witness so many individuals, families, parishes and groups in the Diocese reach out to those in need - providing resources, time, and most of all prayers; it is truly our Catholic Social Teaching in action." She also expressed gratitude to Bishop Michael Burbidge, who was the first outside official to visit the site of the damage following the tornado. "His leadership and quick response was important to the people of this community," she said. "It gave people hope of relief."

At an interfaith dedication of the Project on Holy Saturday, April 7, the victims of the storm were remembered. Fr. Marcos Leon, parochial vicar of Cristo Rey, a mission of St. Mark's in Wilmington, led the Dedication Prayer in Spanish and read a message from Bishop Burbidge: "Please assure the families that ever since my visit to the site, I have been praying especially for them each and every day. I ask our Lord Jesus to bless them with His healing love and to grant them strength, peace and perseverance. May they be renewed in the truth that unites us this week: that through His suffering, death and resurrection, we come to share in the victory of Christ and nothing can ever defeat us. May they continue to trust firmly in the Lord's promises and abiding presence."



Last November, Bishop Burbidge visited the site of the tornado's destruction with Linda Pierce of Catholic Charities and Father Marcos Leon, parochial vicar of Cristo Rey Church in Riegelwood.

## We want to hear from you

►► If you have story ideas you would like NC Catholics to consider, or would like to comment on articles and stories in this issue of NC Catholics, please e-mail them to Rich Reece at: [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org). or mail them to: NC Catholics Magazine, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606.



## Sister Prejean speaks at St. Francis

►► Anti-death penalty activist and author Sister Helen Prejean addressed more than 800 people at St. Francis of Assisi Church on April 22. The author of two books about her experiences with death row prisoners, *Dead Man Walking* and *The Death of Innocents*, Sister Prejean spoke about "the two arms of the cross," symbolizing outreach to both condemned criminals and to the families of murder victims. She acknowledged that in the beginning of her ministry, she had to grow into the latter, and did so with the help of people who were compassionate despite having every reason to hate. She urged her listeners to look at the condemned the way God looks at all of us: "We are worth more," she said, "than the worst thing we've ever done."



**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour**, June 1, 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral, is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. While the VHH's are open to everyone, it will certainly be a unique opportunity for men and women discerning a Church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment.

► **There will be no VHH in July or August. The series will resume in September.**

**Priesthood Discernment Group**, June 2, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., at the Doggett Center, Raleigh. This group provides a comfortable and safe place to discuss your thoughts and feelings about a possible call to the priesthood. The group discusses issues central to the call within the context of prayer and mutual support. If you think this group may be for you, please call Fr. Alex at 919.833.9668 or e-mail him at jagonza3@ncsu.edu.

**Mark your calendars** – Representatives from **parish safe environment** teams are to attend one of two Safe Environment June Convocations:

- Saturday, June 2 at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Raleigh
  - Saturday, June 23 at St. Mark in Wilmington
- Both meetings will be the same in content and will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. To register, contact Michelle Sampson via registrar@raldioc.org

**African Ancestry Senior Adult Harambee Retreat**, June 3, 4 p.m. – June 7, 12 p.m. at Trinity Center, West Fort Macon Road, Salter Path, NC 28575. This retreat is for seniors 55 years and older. The retreat week will have sessions on how older adults can still be involved in ministry and additional planning for the future. Retreat Leaders: Msgr. Thomas Hadden; Sister Larretta Rivera-Williams, RSM. Spiritual director: Fr. Marcos Leon. Cost: \$250 includes housing and meal.

**Ordination to the Priesthood of Deacons Anthony DeCandia and Marco González** will take place on Saturday, June 9, at 10 a.m. at St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill.

**Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate** of seminarians Romen Acero and Michael Spurr will take place on Saturday, June 30, at 10 a.m. at St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Raleigh.

**Bishop F. Joseph Gossman Awards Dinner**, June 7, 6-9 p.m. at the Fallon Center, Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh. The Gossman Award recognizes outstanding volunteer service to Catholic schools in the diocese.

**Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass**, June 15, 12:10 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

**Hispanic Youth Leaders Formation.** The second class for the Diocesan Formation for Leaders of Parish Pastoral Juvenile and Hispanic Catholic Youth Movements will take place at Immaculate Conception Church in Durham on June 16, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. This program offers the basic formation needed for those who currently are leaders or want to be leader for the Hispanic Youth group. Please contact Bro. Giovanni Ada' for more information: 919.821.9713, giovanni.ada@raldioc.org

**Formación para los líderes de Pastoral Juvenil.** La segunda clase de Formación Diocesana para dirigentes parroquiales de la Pastoral Juvenil y los Movimientos Juveniles Católicos Hispanos tomará lugar en Inmaculada Concepción, Durham, el 16 de junio de las 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Este programa ofrece la formación básica requerida para los líderes existentes o para los que deseen ser líderes del grupo juvenil. Para más información, comuníquense con Hno. Giovanni Ada': 919.821.9713, giovanni.ada@raldioc.org

**Faithful Servant Leadership Institute**, June 17- 22 at the Short Journey Center, Smithfield. Learn to serve as Jesus did. This program is for youth (9-12 grade) who want to develop and use their leadership skills and for the adults who work with them. Learn valuable tools for your parish and for life! This event is jointly sponsored by the Dioceses of Charlotte and Raleigh and this year will be hosted by the Diocese of Raleigh. Cost: \$200. Contact Mike Hagarty at 919.821.9770 or hagarty@raldioc.org.

**Youth Ministers' Institute**, June 27-28 at Short Center, Smithfield. This is a time to gather all adults who work with youth within the Diocese of Raleigh. It is a time for professional and spiritual

development, networking, relaxation and renewal. Cost: \$55. Contact Mike Hagarty at 919.821.9770 or hagarty@raldioc.org.

**Upcoming retreats at Avila Retreat Center**, 711 Mason Rd., Durham, NC 27712. To register or for more information call 919.477.1285.

**Spirit & Art ~ Art & Spirit, June 15-17, Fri. 7 p.m. – Sun. 11 a.m.**

Do you connect with your spirit by creating art, or do you get in touch with your spirit before you can get creative? You're sure to find out a lot about yourself this weekend. We will enjoy plenty of time to explore, ponder, play, relax and release the artist that is within. No art experience is necessary to participate in this fun and relaxing retreat – which is back by popular demand. All materials are included. Presenter(s): Claudia Fulshaw and Lisa Giannini, Durham Artists. Donation: \$150

**Under Construction: How to Forgive When People Have Hurt or Disappointed You Intentionally or Unintentionally, June 16, (Sat.) 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.**

The retreat will focus primarily on the story of Jonah and what it means to have the power of the resurrected Jesus available to us. It will address how to pray for those with whom we differ ethically and politically. Presenter Wanda K. Wilkins earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees from UNC Chapel Hill in nursing and public health. Donation: \$25 (includes lunch)

**Natural Family Planning Classes.**

What is the "Theology of the Body?" Why does the Catholic Church exclusively promote Natural Family Planning? Learn about your faith while discovering a system of fertility awareness that is 99% effective, safe, healthy and morally acceptable. Class 1 of 4 starts on Sunday, June 24th from 2-5pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Raleigh. Materials fee. Register now and call Jeanne & Tim at 786.1205 or Teri & Sal at 469.4226.



**Come and See: A Photojournalist's Journey into the World of Mother Teresa, July 20-21, Fri. 7 p.m. – Sat. 4 p.m.** The retreat will focus on the work and influence of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta and how it relates to our present circumstances in the world today. Presenter author Linda Schaefer will share her personal journey with Mother Teresa in 1995. Donation: \$75.

Plan now to attend the **Emmaus Conference**, Oct. 19-20, at St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh. This annual adult conference sponsored by the Division of Evangelization and Catechesis is intended for parish catechetical leaders, catechists, youth ministers, priests, liturgical ministers, young adults, school teachers and anyone and everyone involved in passing on the faith seeking spiritual renewal and companionship. This year's theme is: Catechesis – Encountering the Living Christ.

#### ► **Special Assignments**

- **Reverend Roch T. Drozdzik**, Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Kinston, NC, is granted a three-month period of leave to attend to family in Poland.
- **Reverend James F. Garneau**, Pastor of Saint Mary Parish in Mount Olive, NC; at the request of His Eminence Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago, Bishop Burbidge has released Father Garneau for a period of two years to be a scholar in residence in the Archdiocese of Chicago for the purpose of developing a biography of His Eminence George Cardinal Mundelein, former Archbishop of Chicago (December 9, 1915 – October 2, 1939).

**The appointments of the newly-ordained priests, Reverend Mr. Anthony DeCandia and Reverend Mr. Marco Antonio Gonzalez, will be announced on June 9 and effective July 10, 2007.**

## **Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following priest assignments.**

### ► **Effective May 28, 2007**

- **Reverend Salvatore Busichio**, from the Archdiocese of Newark NJ, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish in Raleigh, NC.
- **Reverend Douglas J. Smiley**, Parochial Vicar at Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish in Raleigh, is appointed Pastor of St. Egbert Parish in Morehead City, NC.

### ► **Effective July 10, 2007**

- **Reverend Joseph T. Brennan**, O.S.F.S., Parochial Vicar at Immaculate Conception Parish in Wilmington, NC, is appointed Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Wilmington, NC.
- **Very Reverend David D. Brockman**, Adjutant Judicial Vicar and Pastor of Saint Patrick Parish in Fayetteville, NC, is appointed Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia of the Diocese of Raleigh.
- **Reverend Edward Burch**, Parochial Vicar at St. Patrick Parish in Fayetteville, NC, is appointed Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Kinston, NC.
- **Reverend Monsignor Michael G. Clay**, Administrative Secretary to the Bishop and Director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate, is appointed Pastor of St. Ann Parish in Clayton, NC. He will remain the Director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate.
- **Very Reverend Fr. Archpriest D. Richard Doherty**, Faculty, Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh, NC, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish in Raleigh and at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Raleigh, NC.
- **Reverend Luis Alberto Domico**, assigned to Hispanic Ministry at LaPosada Guadalupe Mission in Mt. Olive, NC, is appointed Parochial Vicar at LaPosada Guadalupe Mission in Mount Olive, NC.
- **Reverend Francisco Javier Garcia-Gonzalez**, Parochial Vicar at St. Thomas More Parish in Chapel Hill, NC and St. Stephen the Martyr Parish in Sanford, NC, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Holy Family Parish in Elizabeth City, NC.
- **Very Reverend Patrick Keane**, Vicar for Hispanics, remains the Administrator of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Newton Grove, NC. He will remain the Vicar for Hispanics.
- **Reverend Marcos Leon-Angulo**, Parochial Vicar at St. Mark Parish in Wilmington NC, is appointed Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Whiteville, and its Mission of Our Lady of the Snows in Elizabethtown, NC.
- **Reverend Msgr. Gerald L. Lewis**, retired priest and Archivist of the Diocese of Raleigh, is appointed Sacramental Minister at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Louisburg, NC. He will remain the Archivist.
- **Reverend Scott E. McCue**, Pastor of St. Ann Parish in Clayton, NC is appointed Assistant Principal for Spiritual Life at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh, NC.
- **Reverend William Restrepo**, assigned to Hispanic Ministry at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clinton, NC, is appointed Parochial Vicar at St. Thomas More Parish in Chapel Hill, NC.
- **Reverend William H. Rodriguez**, Administrator of Sts. Mary and Edward Parish in Roxboro, NC is appointed Pastor of Sts. Mary and Edward Parish in Roxboro, NC, and is assigned to Hispanic Ministry at St. Bernadette Parish in Butner, NC.
- **Reverend Edgar Sepulveda**, Administrator of LaPosada Guadalupe Mission, Mount Olive, NC, is appointed Pastor of St. Mary Parish in Mount Olive, NC.
- **Reverend Monsignor Michael P. Shugrue**, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia of the Diocese of Raleigh, is appointed Pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Fayetteville, NC.
- **Reverend Gregory D. Spencer**, Sacramental Minister at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Louisburg, NC, is appointed Parochial Vicar at St. Mark Parish in Wilmington, NC.
- **Reverend Jonathan A. Woodhall**, retired priest of the Diocese of Raleigh, is appointed Assistant Director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate for the Diocese of Raleigh.
- **Reverend Joseph J. Yaeger**, Pastor of St. Elizabeth Parish in Farmville, NC, Reverend Arturo Cabra, Pastor of Mother of Mercy Parish in Washington NC, and Reverend J. Patrick Daugherty, C.P., Parochial Vicar at St. Peter Parish in Greenville, NC, are appointed to Sacramental Ministry to the Hispanic Community at Holy Trinity Parish in Williamston, NC.



**I**t was Father Thomas Frederick Price, the “Tar Heel Apostle,” whose cause for sainthood is currently being promoted (NCC, May 2007, p. 24), who gave Greenville its first Catholic church. Catholics living in the area had been served by missionary priests since 1845, but in the 1880s Fr. Price purchased a frame building from the Episcopalians for \$50 and moved it to a donated lot. The parish of St. Peter was established in 1884.

St. Peter,  
Greenville

“Wonderful people who love the Lord”

That church would serve the Catholics of Greenville until 1926, when Father Charles Gable, the first resident pastor, built a combined rectory and church with help from the Catholic Church Extension Society. A school, St. Raphael, was opened in 1946, and administered by the Sisters Adorers of the Precious Blood.

Priests of the Diocese of Raleigh staffed St. Peter until 1987, when Bishop F. Joseph Gossman welcomed five priests from the Passionist Community to the area to serve St. Peter and St. Gabriel in Greenville, St. Catherine in Tarboro and St. Elizabeth in Farmville. The Passionists had a history in Greenville: In 1935, Father Maurice Tew, C.P., began St. Gabriel Parish there as a “Mission to the Colored” and was its pastor until 1964.

In the 1990s, like many par-

ishes in North Carolina, St. Peter saw its congregation outgrow its facilities. A multi-million-dollar building program resulted in a new church, parish hall, gymnasium and two extensions to the school (now St. Peter School). Today, the St. Peter complex is still a work in progress; the latest project is raising money for expanding and remodeling the parish center.

“The current parish hall holds 150,” according to pastor Father Justin Kerber, C.P. It’s hardly adequate for a parish where, he says, “There’s a lot going on.” That’s an understatement. St. Peter School is at capacity with 580 children; there’s a waiting list of 125. Parking near the church is scarce. The book welcoming new parishioners to St. Peter devotes seven pages to listing parish ministries and opportunities for service, and it’s

a partial list. (Father Justin points with special pride to LifeTeen, the parish’s youth program, with a membership of 180. A major event for St. Peter teens each year is the high school mission trip, when young people – more than 90 have signed up for the

next trip – travel to the Passionist provincial house in Pittsburgh for a week of prayer, faith formation and service to the urban poor.)

The growth at St. Peter isn’t just physical. Attendance at daily Mass with morning prayer is typically 50-60; during

Lent it was more than twice that number. This year’s Confirmation class numbers 37. The last year saw 135 baptisms. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is well attended on Wednesday nights, and Eucharistic Adoration for young children has been added.

How does a pastor manage such a dynamic community? Father Justin credits “a great staff and great parishioners – wonderful people who love the Lord.” ☪

#### resource

### St. Peter Catholic Church

2700 E. 4th St.  
Greenville, NC  
27858

► Call the parish office at **252.757.3259** for Mass times or visit [www.saintpeter-scatholic.com](http://www.saintpeter-scatholic.com).



the Diocese of  
**Raleigh**



– Rich Reece



## Looking for Answers to Your Estate Planning Questions?

I have questions about my Will.  
How do I make a bequest to the Church?

Do I need a Trust?

Will a Charitable Gift Annuity provide me with income for life?

Can I increase my income and make a gift to my Church?

Are there benefits to donating stock or real estate?

What documents do I need to protect myself and my family?

To request information to help answer these questions,  
fill out the form and check the topics in which you are interested.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date(s) of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me information on:

- ☐ Wills
- ☐ Making a Bequest
- ☐ Trusts
- ☐ Charitable Gift Annuities
- ☐ Gifting Securities
- ☐ Gifting Real Estate
- ☐ Documents Needed for My Estate Plan
- ☐ Other (Please list topic) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Debbie Rossi  
Diocese of Raleigh  
715 Nazareth Street; Raleigh, NC 27606  
rossi@raldioc.org

Visit our Estate Planning Web Site:

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.

## Retired. Not retiring.

Kathy has her own idea of wellness. Some days, it's a hole-in-one. Other times, it's gardening, gourmet dining, and grandchildren. Soon, she'll have more time for it all. Being carefree feels good. Living here will feel great...like hitting the green. Because here, wellness is a way of life.

*Pennybyrn at Maryfield is opening soon and residence selection is becoming limited – act now!*



**PENNYBYRN**

at MARYFIELD

A Retirement Living Community

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

(336) 886-4103 or (866) 627-9343

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor  
Servants of the Mother of God



MAG/NCC/Ret3



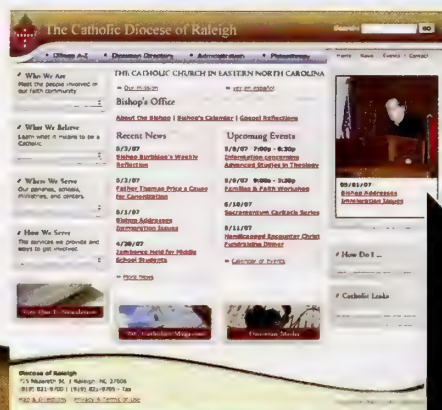
# your church at your fingertips

⚡ breaking, detailed diocesan news

⚡ complete events calendar

⚡ podcasting ⚡ parish links

⚡ Bishop's weekly gospel reflections –  
video and print versions



Go Now to  
**www.dioceseofraleigh.org**

**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

|||||

\*\*\*\*\*E-DIGIT 27514  
95219 P 13 1145  
UNC CHAPEL HILL SERIALS DEPARTMENT 34  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA


DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

July 2007

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



AT FORT BRAGG, CATHOLIC  
MILITARY WIVES FIND A  
FAMILY AWAY FROM HOME

## UNITED IN SPIRIT, UNITED IN SERVICE

from the bishop

The Eucharist:  
The Source and  
Font of Charity

ordination

Priesthood for  
Father DeCandia,  
Father Gonzalez

el hispano católico

Unidas en  
espíritu, unidas  
en servicio

parish profile

Survivors:  
St. Anne,  
Edenton



**I**n this issue of *NC Catholics*, we explore the fruit of the Holy Spirit known as “charity” (rendered “love” in some translations). As I have described in the previous issue of *NC Catholics*, the fruits of the Holy Spirit are the ways we express and make visible the gifts of the Holy Spirit to God and others.

Charity is one of the ways we manifest God’s presence to others. For the believer, charity is more than simply doing a nice deed for someone else. Charity, at its deepest level, is manifesting God’s love for others through our words and deeds.

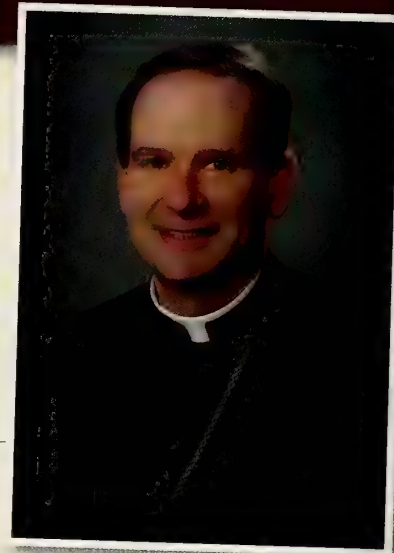
Here is a profound truth about charity: God has deemed us worthy to be His instruments of love. We believe God is love. The Trinity is the perfection of love. Although perfect and not in need of anyone else to complete it, God chooses to extend the love of the Trinity to us imperfect, mortal creatures. God wills that we love as God has loved us and through the fruit of the Holy Spirit we call charity, we make that love visible.

The word “charity” appears in the Latin title of the first two documents of Pope Benedict XVI’s pontificate. The first is the encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love) and the second is his apostolic exhortation, *Sacramentum Caritatis* (The Sacrament of Charity). Given the Holy Father’s theological and spiritual depth, it is not surprising that his first writings would focus on God as the source of charity and the Holy Eucharist as the font of charity. Pope Benedict has chosen God and the Holy Eucharist as the two dimensions of our faith to which he would give his first priorities in addressing Catholics throughout the world. This tells us something very important. I believe he is saying that God and the Holy Eucharist should be *our* first priorities.

*Sacramentum Caritatis*, released earlier this year, is a beautiful reflection. The Holy Father explains how the Eucharist is to be believed, celebrated and lived. He teaches us that the One who is the center of our belief, the liturgical prayer we celebrate is caught up in charity, both in its divine and human expressions. He captures well our belief that “communion with the Holy Trinity and fraternal communion are inseparably the fruits of the Spirit of the liturgy” (CCC 1108). This belief is expressed in our liturgical celebrations, par excellence in the Mass. This is the fundamental reason we should always give the best of ourselves to God at Mass and why we should give our best to one another in life. To do so expresses the fruit of the Holy Spirit we call charity in the most wonderful manner possible.

May Mary, Mother of God’s perfect charity made flesh, guide you always. ☪

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is bishop of Raleigh.



Here is a profound truth about charity: God has deemed us worthy to be His instruments of love.

## The Eucharist:

The source and font of charity



**On the cover:** Women of the Fort Bragg chapter of the Military Council of Catholic Women. Left to right: Mindy Barron, Sue Fletcher, Beth Lamy, Kum-ae Jones, Dawn Leone, Sandra Gill, Bernadette Schwan, Sara Ryberg. (Photo by Denmark Photo and Video)



## cover story

### ►► United in Spirit, United in Service

At Fort Bragg,  
Catholic military  
wives find a family  
away from home

— Rich Reece



### 18 el hispano católico Unidas en espíritu, unidas en servicio

En el Fuerte militar Bragg,  
las esposas católicas de los  
soldados se sienten en familia  
muy lejos de casa. — Rich Reece

### 20 Ya que usted lo pregunta ...

◀◀ Estimado NCC: ¿Cómo  
la Iglesia determina si un santo  
canonizado, como San Cristóbal,  
deja de serlo? — Padre James F. Garneau



### 21 Obispo Burbidge La Eucaristía: La fuente de la caridad

— Obispo Michael F. Burbidge



# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

## from the bishop

2 The Eucharist:  
The Source and Font of Charity  
— Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

## ordination

4 Priesthood for Father  
DeCandia, Father Gonzalez

## since you asked ...

6 Dear NCC: How can  
the Church declare a  
canonized saint, like  
St. Christopher, to no  
longer be a saint?  
— Father James F. Garneau



## from the editor

7 Love stories  
— Rich Reece

## theology 101

8 What's the difference between the  
humanity and the divinity of Christ?  
— Elizabeth Solsburg

## voices in our church

11 For Love, Not Money  
— Msgr. Thomas Hadden

11 El Gran Don de la Caridad  
— Padre Fernando Torres

## spiritual fitness

22 Spiritual progress through purity  
— how to rid your soul of impurities  
— Father Bill Ashbaugh

## work life

25 Are you a workaholic? Separating  
ourselves from the workplace.  
— Tim Ryan

## ◀◀ parish profile

30 Survivors: St. Anne, Edenton  
— Rich Reece



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

July/August 2007 • Vol. 3 : Issue 6

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Father James F. Garneau  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Fr. Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

Denmark Photo and Video (cover)  
Chris Elam  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vicki Bedard  
DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING

Jillane Job  
SUBSCRIPTIONS/SECRETARY

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Enomhen Odigie  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Betsy Miner  
Derek Melot  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™ Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730

ordination







### Priesthood for Father DeCandia, Father Gonzalez

**O**n June 9 at St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge ordained Deacons Anthony Vincent DeCandia and Marco-Antonio Gonzalez as priests of the Diocese of Raleigh. DeCandia and Gonzalez are the first priests ordained for the Diocese by Bishop Burbidge since his installation as Bishop of Raleigh in August 2006. Video of the Ordination Rite can be viewed at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/vocations](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/vocations).



*Photos by Chris Flam*



# Dear NCC

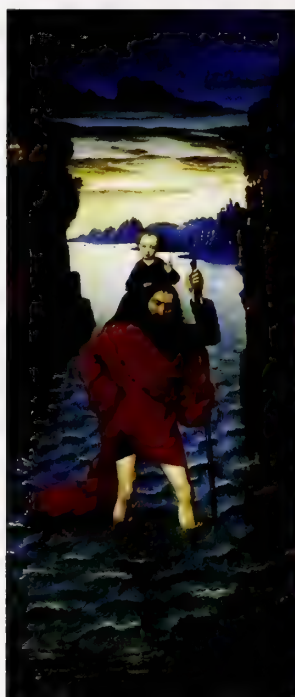
This month with Fr. James E. Garneau

**Dear NCC:** How can the Church declare a canonized saint, like St. Christopher, to no longer be a saint?

**T**his question first arose in the secular media and among many Catholics in 1969, when the revised liturgical calendar for the universal Church was promulgated by Pope Paul VI. In that revision, some celebrations of the saints were removed from the calendar, others transferred to different days and others, such as the feast days of more recently canonized saints, were added. This was not the first revision of the Church's calendar. There have been further revisions since – and more revisions are inevitable.

In the first centuries of the Church's life, the anniversaries of martyrs' deaths were observed, usually with the celebration of the Eucharist, by local communities of believers who cherished their memories and sought their intercession. Some martyrs were quickly recognized by neighboring communities, and lists or catalogues of martyrs quickly spread throughout the Church. St. Martin of Tours, who died peacefully around 397 A.D., may be among the first of the non-martyred saints ("confessors") to have been remembered with an annual Eucharist. The fame of his heroic virtue, as well as miracles attributed to his intercession, caused this annual feast day celebration (Nov. 11) to be observed throughout Europe, where many chapels and churches were soon erected to honor him.

One can see from this cursory history that the veneration of the saints began as a local phenomenon. In many ways, it still is. When the holiness of a deceased member of the Catholic community is recognized by the People of God, the local bishop has the possibility of presenting a "cause" to the Holy See, which now has the ultimate responsibility and authority for determining whether or not the Church will permit public veneration of the person. This is done through a series of investigations, authorized by Rome and always beginning at the local level (i.e., where the person lived and/or died), and under the authority of that bishop. It may



*When the liturgical calendar for the Latin Rite was reformed in 1969, it was the desire of Pope Paul VI to add many saints from around the world, and from various states of life (e.g., single, married, lay, clergy, etc.). This required the removal of many saints from the calendar who were never formally canonized and whose biographies often lacked much clear historical evidence.*

lead to the determination by the pope that the person (called "the Servant of God") be recognized as venerable, blessed or even a saint. The Church also investigates the legitimacy of alleged miracles, which are awaited prior to beatification and canonization.

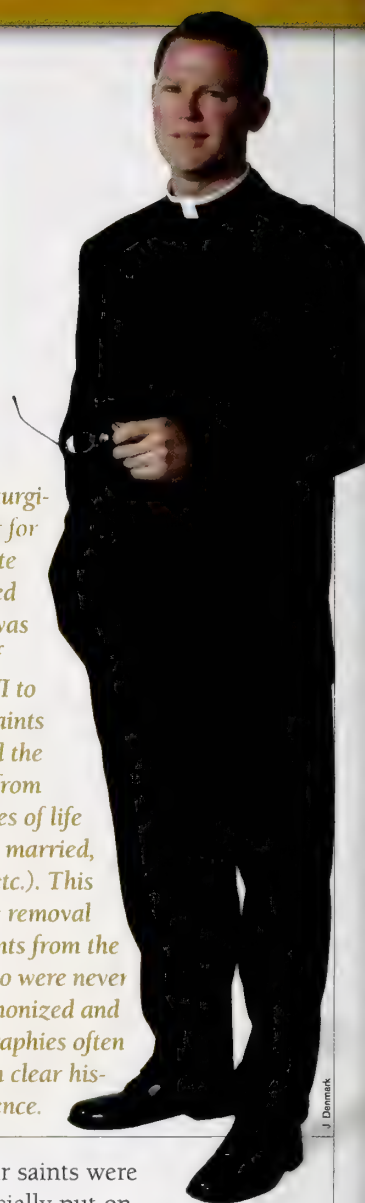
The recourse to Rome for beatification and canonization was not required during most of the first millennium. In fact, the first known canonization by a pope was that of St. Ulric, bishop of Augsburg, who died in 973 A.D., and was canonized by Pope John XV in 993. Soon, it was considered desirable by the local churches to have their saints canonized by the Roman pontiff. In this way,

their saints were officially put on the list of saints recognized by the Roman Church. By the end of the 10th century, the popes were beginning to restrict the authority of bishops to canonize, though beatifications often remained a local matter.

In 1634, Pope Urban VII decreed that the rites of beatification and canonization belonged exclusively to the pope. An "office," the Sacred Congregation of Rites, for the purpose of studying the lives and alleged miracles

**The first known canonization by a pope was that of St. Ulric, Bishop of Augsburg, who died in 973 A.D.**

attributed to candidates for sainthood had been established in 1588, and was reorganized in 1969 (the current Congregation





for the Causes of Saints). It is the responsibility of this group to determine and recommend to the Holy Father the acceptance of martyrdom, heroic virtues, and the miracles of the various Servants of God. The decision to proceed at any point in the process ultimately lies with the pope. In the last few centuries, it has been understood that beatification allows veneration of the blessed at the local level. Canonization calls for the universal veneration of those recognized as saints of the Church. It is the common opinion of many theologians that canonization is an infallible act of papal authority, defining that the one canonized now belongs to the Communion of Saints in heaven.

In the current liturgical calendar, there are four levels of observance of the blessed and saints: solemnities, feasts, obligatory memorials and optional memorials. Furthermore, there is a universal calendar for the Latin Rite, which stipulates which observances are celebrated by everyone with Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours and which are optional. Moreover, national conferences of bishops can determine, with the approval of the Holy See, additional feast days that are to be observed by a nation or region. Religious communities, dioceses and parishes can also have particular calendars, depending upon local devotion and customs (the feast day of a founder, of the patron saint, or of a saint who once lived in a local diocese). Not all of the canonized saints, nor those recognized by the Church though never formally canonized (like Saint Christopher), have days that are observed universally or locally.

**The universal and local calendars will continued to be revised, in order to raise up new and compelling examples of holiness for our imitation.**

When the liturgical calendar for the Latin Rite was reformed in 1969, it was the desire of Pope Paul VI to add many saints from around the world, and from various states of life (e.g., single,

married, lay, clergy, etc.). This required the removal of many saints from the calendar who were never formally canonized and whose biographies often lacked much clear historical evidence. St. Christopher, for example, has been a very popular saint whose fame largely derives from many,

often contradictory medieval legends. The removal of his feast from the universal calendar did not mean his removal from the list of saints. It is fitting, for example, that St. Christopher be honored at a parish named after him with the highest priority (i.e., a solemnity), though his feast is not obligatory for the universal church. Likewise, the memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first American-born saint, is observed on Jan. 4 within the dioceses of the United States, but not elsewhere. The pontificate of Pope John Paul II, which saw so many canonizations, also added some new saints to the universal calendar (e.g., St. Padre Pio). Without question, the universal and local calendars will continue to be revised, in order to raise up new and compelling examples of holiness for our imitation. ✚

— Father James F. Garneau, Ph.D., is Pastor of St. Mary's Church, Mount Olive, NC.

**Send your questions to:**  
**"Since you asked ..."**  
 715 Nazareth St.  
 Raleigh, NC 27606  
**Or:** reece@raldioc.org

## Love stories

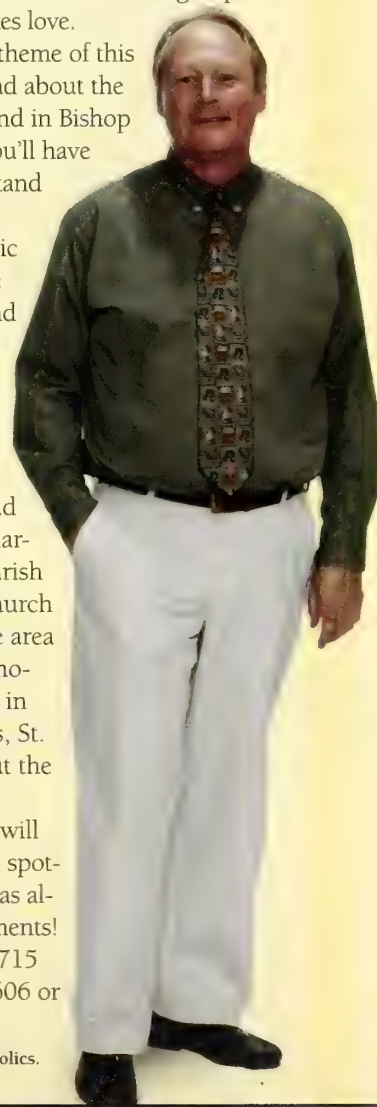
**O**n a very hot day in June, I sat on a deck in Fayetteville, at a house just outside of Fort Bragg, with eight soldiers' wives. At times we all talked at once, and loudly, trying to transcend the happy racket of what seemed like a couple of dozen small children in the yard. (Actually it was only 16.) We didn't talk about war, although it was a presence among us — and surely an unsettling fact of life for the women. Instead, they shared lots of laughter, a quiet pride in togetherness, and something more. I thought of what the Romans are supposed to have said about the early Christians: "See how they love one another!" In 1 Corinthians 13 we read that love "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." These members of the Military Council of Catholic Women (MCCW) were clearly there *for each other*, had been there and would be there, in just this way. Not surprisingly, a fruit of the love in this group was service to others: Out of love comes love.

The love we call charity is the theme of this issue of *NC Catholics*. You can read about the women of MCCW on page 12, and in Bishop Burbidge's column this month you'll have the opportunity to better understand Pope Benedict's encyclical on the Source of all love and his apostolic exhortation on the Eucharist, the font of God's love. On pages 4 and 5, you'll see pictures from the ordination of two men who have loved the Lord enough to give their lives in service to Him, and to us, as priests.

This month also marks a proud day for the diocese, and particularly for the people of St. Anne's Parish in Edenton: On July 29, their church will have served Catholics in the area for 150 years. It's the oldest Catholic church in continuous service in North Carolina. Congratulations, St. Anne! (You can learn more about the parish on page 30.)

The next issue of *NC Catholics* will reach you in September, and will spotlight Catholic teenagers. Thanks as always for all your ideas and comments! I hope you'll keep writing me at 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.

— Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.





# What is the difference between the humanity and the divinity of Christ?



How is He human? How is He divine?

**T**his year, *NC Catholics* is exploring Christology – the study of Jesus Christ. We asked several eminent seminary professors some questions about Jesus. Their answers are enlightening and thought-provoking.

**NCC: What is the difference between the humanity and the divinity of Christ?**

**Father Acklin:** Jesus and Christ are one and the same. But what has caused a split between the two was the development of the historical sciences in the 17th-19th centuries. The Catholic Church was rather wary of this approach; Pope Pius X was cautious because historical methods were used in a reductionist way. Pope Benedict has articulated cautions of the historical-critical method as presented in things like the Jesus Seminar. The assumptions of that seminar are very reductionist – they limit the Christ of faith.

theologian of the month

**Hans Urs von Balthasar**  
(1905-1988)

One of the most noted theologians of the 20th century, Hans Urs von Balthasar never taught theology at a university. Instead, he opted to be a student chaplain at Basel. While there, he met Adrienne Von Speyr, a mystic, whose writings became inextricably linked with his own.

In 1950, Balthasar left the Jesuit order to become a diocesan priest, having felt the call to begin the Community of St. John with Speyr.

In 1988, two days before the ceremony that would have elevated him to a cardinal, Hans Urs von Balthasar died at his home in Basel.

He wrote that Jesus' death and resurrection reveal to us that God can endure and conquer godlessness, abandonment and death itself.

Balthasar described his theology as a "kneeling theology", connected to prayer, adoration and worship.

Meet the professors



Father Acklin



Father Muller



Father Stevens

**Father Thomas Acklin** is a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa. He is a graduate of Duquesne University, St. Vincent Seminary, The Catholic University of Louvain and Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Institute.

**Father Earl Muller** is The Bishop Kevin M. Britt Professor of Theology/Christology at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. He formerly taught at Marquette University in Wisconsin.

**Father Gladstone Stevens** is on the faculty of St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.



Heresy!

**Appollinarianism:**  
Jesus' divine nature took the place of his humanity



Apollinaris

►► According to Appollinarists, Jesus was divine – but was so at the expense of his humanity. Apollinaris, a bishop, taught that the *Logos*, the “Word” of God, became the divine nature of Christ, overcoming and taking the place of his human soul. He and his followers believed that Jesus was the son of God, but that humanity and divinity couldn't exist simultaneously in one person. The theological danger of this heresy is that it minimizes the value of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross – if he was not human, he did not really die. And therefore, didn't rise. In 381, the Second Council at Constantinople condemned this heresy and affirmed the concept of the hypostatic union – Jesus is completely God and completely human.

Another very strange phenomenon is exemplified in books like *The Da Vinci Code*. Those authors take Gnostic texts and then present them as having equal authority to canonical texts. I have talked to the late Ray Brown, an eminent Scripture scholar, who recognized that the historical sciences had overreached themselves – and created a distance between us and Christ. The Pontifical Biblical Commission wrote a document in the early '80s insisting that the historical-critical methods are indispensable, but only if they are not used in a reductionist way. There is a rediscovery of the canonical method, which uses the historical-critical approach, but lets the

whole canon speak together. **Father Muller:** There is a distinction between the Jesus of history and the Christ of faith. The Jesus of history refers to this specific human who wandered around Judea and Galilee. The Christ of faith refers to that same individual as portrayed by the Gospels. In concrete reality, Jesus is Christ and Christ is Jesus. When this distinction evolved in the 19th century, there were some curious things going on. There was the rise of a Newtonian worldview that understood the world as a giant mechanism with a watchmaker God. If you have an exquisite mechanism, you cannot tolerate interference by God. This leads to trouble identifying the concrete Jesus as divine. And yet, Christianity has always depended on an affirma-



what does that symbol mean?

**Paschal Lamb**

Jesus is often depicted as the lamb whose blood redeems us, an analogy to the Passover sacrificial lamb. The Book of Revelation describes Jesus as the “Lamb who was slain ...”

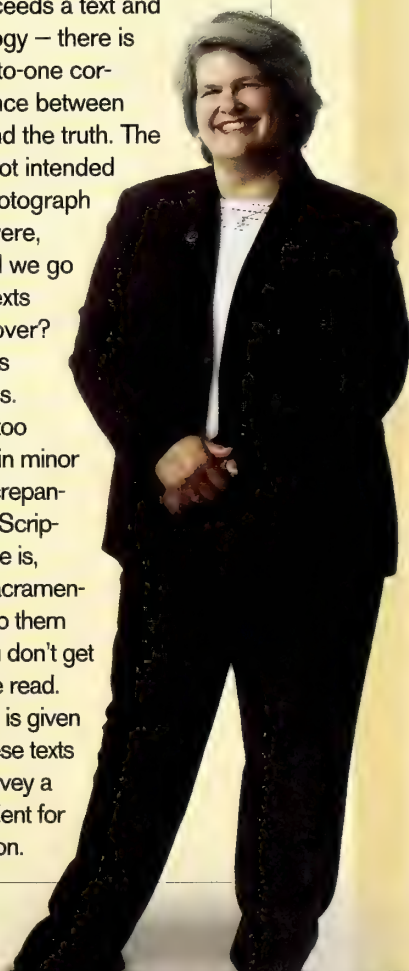
tion of Christ's divinity. Because our knowledge is limited, we distinguish between a Jesus we can phenomenally experience – and God. This is, of necessity, limited. We cannot identify this experience of Jesus as exhaustive of an experience of God.

**Father Stevens:** There cannot be a dichotomy between the Jesus of history and the Christ of faith. Our salvation did not happen in a galaxy far, far away. This is part of the incarnation, that the eternal took on the conditions of time – and time is thereby redeemed. We live in history and God entered into the historical flow and redeems it. We find this in the Gospels. Luke is anxious to situate everything within the course of history – that is what saves us from a sort of Gnosticism.

We need to understand the limits of the texts we have – there is always more than what a historical text can convey. Truth always exceeds a text and methodology – there is not a one-to-one correspondence between any text and the truth. The texts are not intended to be a photograph – if they were, why would we go to some texts over and over? Some texts speak to us.

We get too caught up in minor textual discrepancies in the Scriptures. There is, rather, a sacramental quality to them – truth you don't get on any one read. Substance is given to us in these texts – they convey a truth sufficient for our salvation.

– Elizabeth  
Solsburg



**Bible Quiz**

A faithful warrior, an eminent judge.  
Who am I?

►► Turn to  
page 26 for  
the answer



I am a proud member of the Tribe of Manasseh, son of Gilead, and resident of Gilead. I was a judge of Israel for six years, during the time just before we had our first king. My brothers (well, my half-brothers, really) kicked me out and I moved to Tob. When Israel decided to go to war against the Ammonites, who did they turn to? Me! I have great faith in the Lord – I know he can do all things. That's why I promised him, before I went to battle, that I would sacrifice the first person to come through my doors if I came home victorious. I thought it would be a servant – you can imagine my sadness and horror when my beloved daughter came running out to meet me after my victory in battle. Her lament in the Book of Judges still echoes in my heart. **Who am I?**



## Why did this beautiful woman rub pepper on her face?

### Saint Rose of Lima

**Birthplace:** Lima, Peru

**Feast Day:** August 30

►► **Claim to Fame:** Named Isabel when born in 1586, her impoverished family considered her their treasure and called her Rose. They dedicated her life to God. Rose was deeply devoted to her parents and obeyed them in everything they asked of her, except one thing. She refused to marry, because she wanted to give herself to God. She was so concerned that everyone was only interested in her lovely appearance that she rubbed pepper on her face until her skin blistered, dressed in rough clothing and cut off her hair. She wanted to ensure that no one would be tempted by her, and that she would not succumb to vanity.

►► **What made her a saint:** She worked at embroidery and needlework to help sustain her family, even when she would rather have been praying. Rose sold her delicate creations and gave her family all the money. Eventually, she moved from her parents' house to a hermitage, where she fasted and prayed. Although Rose spent hours in prayer each day, she was plagued by sinful thoughts and had a natural tendency toward loneliness and sadness. But she cheerfully offered her suffering to the Lord and was rewarded with ecstasies of peace and joy. She often cared for the sick, even though she was frequently ill and weak herself, partly because of the fasting she felt brought her closer to God. Even when she was in pain, she didn't let her anguish overcome her love for God.

►► **Best Quote:** During her last agonizing illness, she prayed, "Lord, increase my sufferings, and with them increase your love in my heart."

►► **How she died:** She died following a long, painful sickness. She was beatified in 1667 and canonized by Clement X in 1671.

►► **Prayer:** *Help me to remember what is really important: that I am your child. You are my Father. You love me for who I am and how I live, not for what I look like or what I own. Let me praise you who see into my heart, who is always with me and who eases my suffering. Amen. —Jan Rynearson*



### Santa Rosa de Lima

**Lugar de nacimiento:** Lima, Perú

**Día de la santa:** 30 de agosto

**Patrona de Sudamérica y de las Filipinas**

►► **Lo que la hizo famosa:** Cuando nació en el año 1586, su nombre era Isabel pero su familia empobrecida la consideraba como su tesoro propio y la llamaron Rosa. Le dedicaron la vida de la niña a Dios. Rosa tenía una devoción profunda por sus padres y los obedecía en todo lo que ellos le pedían, exceptuando una sola cosa. Rosa se negaba a casarse porque quería entregarse a Dios. Le preocupaba tanto que todos parecían estar solamente interesados en su bonita apariencia física, que se frotó la cara con pimienta hasta llagarse la piel, se vistió con ropas de tela burda y se cortó el pelo. Quería estar segura de que nadie pudiera ser tentado por ella y de que ella misma no sucumbiera frente a la vanidad.

►► **Lo que la hizo santa:** Trabajó haciendo bordados y labores de aguja para ayudar a sustentar a su familia aún cuando ella hubiera preferido estar orando. Rosa vendía sus delicadas creaciones y le daba todo el dinero a su familia. Finalmente, se mudó de la casa de sus padres a una hermita donde ayunaba y oraba. Aunque todos los días pasaba muchas horas en oración, a Rosa la acosaban pensamientos pecaminosos y tenía una tendencia natural a estar triste y solitaria. Pero con gusto le ofreció sus sufrimientos al Señor y fue recompensada con éxtasis de paz y gozo. Con frecuencia cuidaba de los enfermos aunque bastante a menudo ella misma se encontraba débil y enferma, en parte debido al ayuno que ella sentía que la acercaba a Dios. Aún cuando tenía dolores, ella no permitió que la angustia venciera su amor por Dios.

►► **Su mejor cita:** En la agonía de su última enfermedad, ella oró, "Señor, aumenta mis sufrimientos, y con ellos aumenta tu amor en mi corazón."

►► **Forma en la que murió:** Murió luego de una dolorosa y larga enfermedad. Fue beatificada en el año 1667 y canonizada por Clemente X en el año 1671.

►► **Oración:** *Ayúdame a recordar lo que es más importante: que yo soy tu hija. Tú eres mi Padre. Tú me amas por lo que soy y por la forma en la que vivo, no por mi apariencia física ni por lo que poseo. Permíteme alabarte a ti que puedes ver mi corazón, a ti que estás siempre conmigo y que alivias mi sufrimiento. Amén.*



## For love, not money

**A**s I was thinking about charity, the theme of this issue of *NC Catholics*, I thought of three examples of priestly charity. The first I experienced personally. In 1959, after my ordination in Rome and with my studies ended, I returned home to Raleigh and went in to see Bishop Waters. I was all dressed up in a handmade Italian suit. Bishop Waters greeted me and we talked about my coming assignment.

"Have you bought a car yet," the bishop asked, and I told him I didn't have the money. Bishop Waters looked into his wallet, pulled out \$200 and said, "Take this, it is all I have." I took it. And thanked him.

When I celebrated my Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Monica the following Sunday, a collection was taken up for me, which amounted to \$300. I dressed up in my Italian suit again and my pastor, Msgr. Fred Koch, took me to a friendly dealer in Sampson County and I bought a \$500, used Chevrolet, which died two years later.

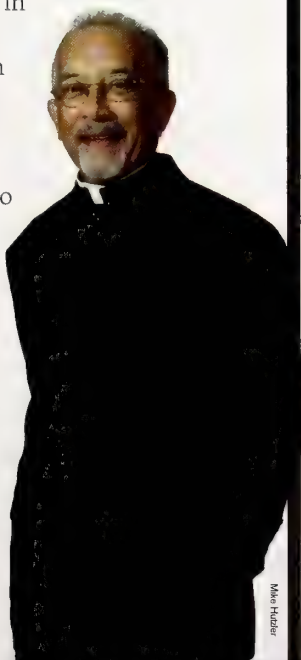
The second example involves Bishop James Navagh, who served Raleigh as the auxiliary bishop and eventually became Bishop of Paterson, N.J. He died during Vatican II. When he died, the Diocese of Paterson had to pay for all of his burial expenses because he routinely gave away all his money. When he died, his bank account was empty.

My third story is about Father Augustine Tolton, the first black priest ordained for the United States. He was from Quincy, Ill. He had, from his early youth, a great desire to become a priest. But the prejudice and timidity of priests and bishops made this dream, at times, seem impossible of fulfillment.

He eventually met Father McGirr, an Irishman, and Father Schafermeyer, a German, who believed in his vocation and did all they could to help him fulfill his call. From their own pockets, they paid for Tolton's college education to help prepare him for possible ordination.

Augustine Tolton eventually had to go to Rome for his priesthood education at the Propagation of Faith Seminary because no American seminary would admit him. He was ordained in the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the Cathedral of Rome, on April 24, 1886, by Cardinal Giovanni Parocchi. On Sunday the 25th, he celebrated his first Mass in the St. Basilica of St. Peter on an altar normally reserved for cardinals and distinguished prelates.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden



## El Gran Don de la Caridad

**L**a caridad es la mayor expresión del amor, es la gracia de Cristo que derramó sobre su Iglesia, es el don del Espíritu Santo con toda clase de gracias que inundaron la vida de los pueblos produciendo conversiones, creando una nueva comunidad con la conciencia de construir el Reino de Dios.

La caridad se hizo sacramento no solo en la bendición de las parejas, sino en todos los momentos de la vida como una gracia que les da origen, los alimenta, los sana, los fortalece y los acompaña hasta la eternidad.

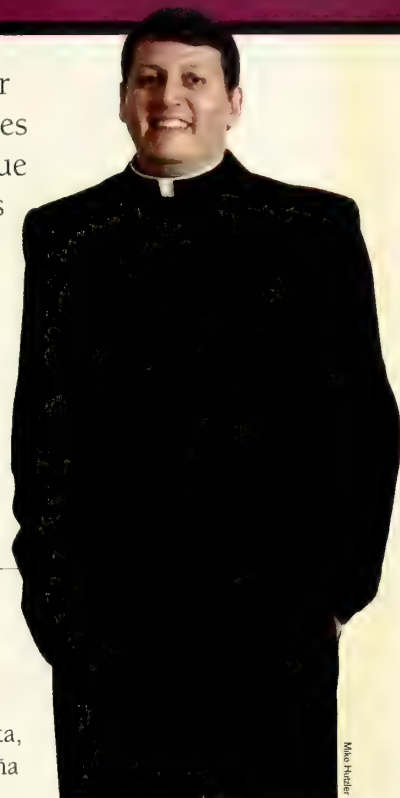
La caridad se hace práctica de la vida cuando se transforma en humildad, generosidad, entrega, servicio y fidelidad, porque la caridad se practica con todos hasta llegar al necesitado, y es cuando se descubre a nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

La caridad se hace oración, la cual lleva al encuentro con el Dios misericordioso para implorar por la restauración de su amor en la vida de todos los habitantes del planeta, para solidarizarse con los que sufren en el cuerpo, en el alma y en las relaciones humanas. Es hacer de esa oración, un encuentro que brinda paz, alegría y fortaleza para seguir enfrentando las diversidades de la vida, y aprender de esas situaciones para mejorar la existencia de todos.

La caridad se hace unidad, cuando se derrumban los muros de la indiferencia, del complejo de superioridad, y se brinda la libertad a los que son oprimidos por falta de justicia y verdad. La unidad es el fruto de la convivencia en la diversidad.

La caridad brilla sobre todos los dones que se puedan tener, porque no es darle a los otros lo que sobra, no es un sentimiento de lástima, de miedo o prevención, sino que es la obra que nace del corazón para acoger al extranjero. Es servir al necesitado, consolar al que sufre, curar al herido, para fortalecer la esperanza de encontrarnos un día con Dios porque lo amamos en el hermano, lo servimos en el necesitado y lo tratamos como a uno de los nuestros.

— Padre Fernando Torres









AT FORT BRAGG, CATHOLIC  
MILITARY WIVES FIND A  
FAMILY AWAY FROM HOME

# UNITED IN SPIRIT, UNITED IN SERVICE

By Rich Reece | Pictures by Denmark Photo and Video

Once a week at Fort Bragg, the giant U.S. Army installation in Fayetteville, 20 to 30 Catholic women come together to socialize, to pray, to serve and to help each other through the very distinctive lives they share as wives of men in the military. In John's Gospel (Chapter 15), after Jesus commands the disciples, "Love one another," He continues, "Greater love has no one than this: that he lay down his life for his friends." While the husbands of many of these women are risking their lives in Iraq or Afghanistan, the women offer their lives to each other, as sisters and spiritual companions through the joys and trials of motherhood and

**"MOST  
OF US DO  
NOT HAVE  
ANY FAM-  
ILY NEARBY  
AND THIS  
GROUP  
QUICKLY  
BECOMES  
A FAMILY  
AWAY FROM  
HOME."**

marriage and frequent moves; through loneliness and, sometimes, through terrible loss.

"Sisters in Spirit, Sisters in Service" is the motto of the Fort Bragg chapter of the Military Council of Catholic Women (MCCW). MCCW-Worldwide, the official women's organization of the U.S. Military Archdiocese, has chapters on almost every U.S. military base in the world. Susan Fletcher, president of the Fort Bragg chapter, is a cheerful, energetic young woman who sets the tone for the group: "We have a lot of fun," she says. "Most of us do not have any family nearby and this group quickly becomes a family away from home." ►



**A**t an unofficial gathering with seven other members of the group, and at least twice as many little children, Susan describes a typical meeting on a Thursday morning during the school year (There are Tuesday evening sessions for women who can't make the morning meetings.): "Those meetings are a little quieter than today," she smiles. "We have free child care and the older children are in school, so it's just us and the babies. Usually some of us will bring food, and we'll start by socializing. Then we come together for a devotion. We have a devotional leader, and it's her job to kind of get us in the right frame of mind. Then I go on to business – maybe our current project or a project we'd like to do. Other members report on any issues they want to bring up. Then we'll go into our Bible study." A recent study focused on women in the New Testament. In the fall, the group will begin a scriptural study of Mary.

The last item on the agenda is a prayer circle: "That's where we share our intentions," one of the women explains.

"Every third Thursday," Susan continues, "we have Mass and say the rosary, and do our service projects." The projects are many. They have included making 100 rosaries for First Communicants, helping with kids' games at the parish picnic, making cards for soldiers abroad, and a clothing exchange. (The women trade clothes among each other as their young children grow and new ones come along, and they donate the surplus to Catholic Charities. "We filled a van," Susan says.) The group helped with Lent "soup and

**"No matter what you are going through, no matter what question you have, someone in the group has gone through it and knows the answer."**

suppers..." and recently initiated Operation Fill the Bookcase (see box). In another project, all the members became certified as Eucharistic Ministers.

One of the biggest events

annually – it takes all year to plan – is the Marriage Renewal Dinner Dance. Held around Valentine's Day and open to every Catholic couple in the military community, active or retired, it begins with a

#### resources

### Operation Fill the Bookcase

►► The women of MCCW at Ft. Bragg are looking for donations of a particular kind of children's book for the Ft. Bragg Library. "There are books targeted for children of men and women in the military; they deal with things like deployment and separation," Susan Fletcher says, mentioning, for example, a series called Uncle Sam's Kids. If you'd like to donate one of these books, write to [mccwftbragg@hotmail.com](mailto:mccwftbragg@hotmail.com). (Susan cautions that the women are not seeking – and not set up to handle – cash donations.)

Mass and the Renewal of Marriage Vows, followed by a dinner and dance at the Officers' Club. Sandra Gill, whose husband is retired, points out the importance of this event in raising the profile of MCCW. "It gets the whole community involved and aware of us and what we do."

Yet another activity is a "Cider Service": Each woman brings a different spice to a prayer gathering where the spices and fruit juices are added to apple cider. Each ingredient represents a different quality the women want to cultivate: for example, sugar=sweetness, cinnamon=hospitality, apple=spirituality, and allspice=humor. "Together," Susan says, "we make a really good punch – and mighty strong women."

Some of the group's activities are purely social: game or movie nights, play groups for the children, dinners. Baby-sitters are provided to those who need them.

**The women who are gathered** today are vocal about the impact of the group on their lives. They mention the support, both social and spiritual. "We have a great range of age and experience," says Susan. "No matter what you are going through, no matter what question you have, someone in the group has gone through it and knows the

answer."

Beth Lamy, a young mother who grew up Catholic in Connecticut, says that it took moving to North Carolina to truly awaken her faith. "I always identified myself as Catholic," she says, "but I didn't really do much about it until I found this group. Now I learn something new about my faith at every meeting. We've studied apologetics, and that's been so useful in an area where Catholics are really a minority. I think God led me to North Carolina to have my faith challenged."

Another woman recalls, "When I came here I was pregnant and lonely, and these people were so nice!"

A third member endorses the spiritual education she's received: "We learn from each other," she says. "There are all levels of Catholic knowledge. Some of the women are going





"I always identified myself as Catholic, but I didn't really do much about it until I found this group. Now I learn something new about my faith at every meeting."



**"It's true that military life is hard, especially if your husband is deployed. But with good friends, we can get through anything."**

husband returns, along with relief comes a huge task of adjustment: The family members can't easily and automatically reassume the roles they had before – and the children may well be at different developmental stages than they

through RCIA and really know more detail about the Catholic faith than some of us who grew up in the Church."

**At its most intimate level,** the group is about supporting the members through some of the family stresses inherent in military life, especially during a time of war. Women whose husbands are deployed naturally experience fear and uncertainty about the future, and loneliness. They are forced for long periods to become both mother and father to their children. When the

were when the father left. The resulting tensions are well known to military wives.

"That's one of the great things about this group," one of the women says. "They understand. They've maybe learned ways to cope that I didn't know."

And when the worst happens, the faith-filled support and love of one's "sisters" is crucial. "It's true that military life is hard," Susan says, "especially if your husband is deployed. But with good friends, we can get through anything."



## Prayer to Our Lady of Good Counsel

► **Patroness of the Military Council of Catholic Women – Feast Day April 26**

O Lord of heavenly wisdom,  
Who has given us your own Mother Mary  
To be our guide and counselor in this our lives,  
Grant that in all things we may have the grace  
To seek maternal instructions and  
To profit by it in humility and love.

O Mother of Good Counsel, Patroness of the Military Council of Catholic Women,  
Help us to understand and fulfill  
The mind and will of your Divine Son, Jesus Christ.

Under the blessing of the Father,  
And by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
May we be responsible and intelligent  
Daughters of the Church.

May we labor in the spirit of renewal  
To realize more perfectly the Kingdom of God here below  
As the only true preparations for our share in the  
Kingdom of Heaven.

And may we, in all we do or say,  
Be filled with the same love of God and Neighbor  
That overflows from your own Immaculate Heart.

**Amen.** \*This prayer was composed by the Most Rev. Robert J. Dwyer, D.D., bishop of Reno, for the 33rd National Convention of the National Council of Catholic Women.

## Retreats at Topsail Island -- Exclusively for Military Families:

### • July 6-8, 2007: Surviving Deployment \*

This special retreat is to help military families grow in love, respect and commitment during deployment. Presentations and workshops, led by retired military couples, include practical tips for managing day to day life as well as preparing ahead for a smooth and compassionate future re-entry into family life. Children will benefit from creative age-appropriate peer group activities and discussions.

### • August 10-12, 2007: Surviving Re-Entry after Being Deployed \*\*

Presenters, experienced with active military challenges, will share experiences of re-entering family life after long deployment. Couples will have time to share ways of coping with the stressful time of deployment and re-entering back into family life. Child-friendly activities and peer group activities are all designed to reinforce family bonds.

► **To Register:** [www.ChristianFamilyLiving.org](http://www.ChristianFamilyLiving.org) or 910.328.1584.

These retreats are open to all enlisted and officers of any branch of the military. All faiths welcome.

► **All Inclusive Price:** \$50 per family (includes private bedroom with private bath, all meals, and all materials).

The Christian Family Living Center is a lay owned and operated Catholic retreat center by the sea – open to people of all faiths.

\* Marianist Province of the United States grant \*\* Diocese of Raleigh grant



# The Board of Trustees, Administration and Faculty and Staff of CARDINAL GIBBONS HIGH SCHOOL



## Salute the Graduates

Matthew Bernard Abadie  
Daniel Peter Adducci  
Eric Martin Amato  
Catherine Carlin Andrews  
John Burger Anselmo  
Lauren Mae Armstrong  
Brendan Hamilton Bailey  
Derek Michael Baker  
Benae Alexandria Beamon  
Brenden James Becherer  
Jamal Curtis Bell  
Christopher David Benson  
Alexandra Grace Boddie  
Kristen Leigh Bolinger  
Janelle Marie Bouchard  
Bridget Lorraine Boyce  
Nancy Collins Boyce  
Brantly Brodt Braswell, Jr.  
Emily Elizabeth Brink  
Ross Joseph Bromberger  
Emily Marquis Buerger  
Emilee Kathleen Bunker  
Kristen Ann Burke  
Kathryne Elizabeth Burns  
Daniel James Calabrese  
Robert Henry Camp  
Sean Patrick Cappiello  
Afton Marie Carducci  
Rachel Eleonore Carey  
Cameron Lee Carr  
Luis Miguel Carrillo  
Ryan Kenneth Cavanaugh  
Christopher Robert Cedrone  
Wesley Joseph Chandler  
Lauren Elizabeth Charlesworth  
Matthew Joseph Chatelain  
Alexander Wayne Choman  
David Nicholas Christie  
Colin David Clark  
Celeste Colerick Clipp  
Annie Ashley Cockrill  
Sinead Patience Corrigan  
Alison Mary Rena Costanzo  
Mark Joseph Costin  
Courtney Coughlin  
Paul William Cox  
Ryan Michael Crawford  
Maureen Virginia Cronley  
Alex Perry Crutchfield  
Scott Robert Daly  
Jocelyn Ann Dantini  
Erin Johanna Darcy

Ainsley Anne DeJuneas  
Charles Joseph DelPapa  
Margaret Mary Rose DeMar  
Katherine Alexandra Desportes  
James Columcille Dever, IV  
Amy Elizabeth DiDomenico  
Angela Maureen Di Filippo  
Willie Otis Dixon, V  
Nicholas Patrick Dold  
Gary Matthew Donaldson  
Vanessa Gisèle Dorismond

Louise Kaye Gibbons  
Samuel Aaron Glaubiger  
Daniel Scott Goodman  
Reynolds Olivia Gray  
Pierce Lewis Greenberg  
Samuel Spencer Greenway  
Robin Peer Guenther  
Ricardo Andres Gutierrez  
William Harvey Hall  
Caroline Louise Hammersley  
James Francis Hammond

Michael Curtis  
Sean Ryan Kiehl  
Derek James Kiehl  
Alexis Grayce  
Jennifer Anne Kiehl  
Matthew Zanes  
Anna Maria Kiehl  
Lance Eric Lanier  
Ian Thomas Lanier  
Carla-Camille Lanier  
Turiel Allen Lanier



Forming  
faith, service  
church

Chemin Shepard Duffey  
Scott Christopher Duffy  
Michael Patrick Duignan  
Chad David Dunham  
Andrew John Dworznicki  
Chelsea Rae Ellefson  
Mark Alexander Ellison  
Thomas John Enzweiler  
Mark John Slater Etheridge  
Jeffrey James Fadool  
Robert Thomas Farr  
Patrick Brendan Ferguson  
Kerrie Elizabeth Fersch  
John Tyler Fitzgerald  
Carly Renee Fleming  
Lane Dawson Flexner  
Philip Michael Forbes  
Amanda Lynn Gabriel  
Karla Maria Garcia-Huerta  
Ashley Nicole Gatto  
Jonas Henrik Gedde-Dahl  
Justin Baric Gianni

Sarah Ann Hardin  
Jenny Christine Harmsen  
Henry Edward Harrell  
Steven Moore Harrill  
Cara Fraser Heaton  
Katherine Elizabeth Heller  
Matthew Eugene Herchenroder  
Michael Dulin Heston  
Michael Quinn Hogan  
Michelle Kristen Honeycutt  
Jessica Beth House  
Patrick David House  
Ryan James Hull  
Jonathan Gerardo Hurtado  
Melissa Marie Hutcheson  
Madison Lynne Ibarguen  
David Andrew Thomas Ingraham  
Lynn Ross Izlar  
Chelsea Lee Jones  
Cameron Lee Jukes  
Christina Maria Kaplanis  
Kathryn Elise Katsahnias

Evan Thomas J  
Merideth Kath  
Stephanie Lyn  
Veronica Cath  
Louis Taylor Le  
Amanda Nicol  
Erin Yolanda I  
Jenny Sommer  
Francisco Lope  
Florence Cham  
Kathleen Ther  
Kelly Margare  
Brian Patrick  
Gregory Charle  
Austin Patrick  
John Paul Mar  
Phillip Michael  
Kyle Andrew  
Jeannine Danie  
Molly Beth Ma  
Michael Kranz  
James Warren

1401 Edwards Mill Road ♦ Raleigh, NC

Ameri Corp  
American University  
Appalachian State University  
Auburn University  
Augsburg College  
Barton College  
Belmont Abbey College  
Belmont University  
Boston College  
Boston College Conservatory  
Boston University  
Bridgton Academy  
Brown University  
Campbell University  
Cape Fear Community College  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Carson-Newman College  
Catholic University of America  
Chowan University

Christian Brothers University  
Christopher Newport University  
Clemson University  
Colgate University  
College of Charleston  
College of Holy Cross  
College of St. Benedict  
Cornell University  
Covenant College  
Creighton University  
Dartmouth College  
DePaul University  
Drexel University  
Duke University  
Durham Technical Community College  
East Carolina University  
East Kentucky University  
East Tennessee State  
Eckerd College

## A LIST OF COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Elon University  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Florida State University  
Fordham University  
Franciscan University  
Franklin Pierce College  
George Mason University  
Georgetown University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Greensboro College  
Guilford College  
Hampden Sydney College  
High Point University  
Hillsdale College  
Indiana University  
Ithaca College

James Madison University  
John Hopkins University  
Lenoir-Rhyne College  
Limestone College  
Loyola College  
Loyola-Marymount University  
Lynchburg College  
Meredith College  
Methodist University  
Michigan State University  
Mount St. Mary College  
Mt. Olive College  
North Carolina State University  
North Carolina Wesleyan University  
Northeastern University  
Oberlin College  
Old Dominion University

Pennsylvania State  
Pepperdine Univer  
Pfeiffer University  
Philadelphia Unive  
Pratt Institute  
Purdue University  
Queens University  
Randolph-Macon  
Rensselaer Polyt  
Rhode Island Scho  
Rochester Institute  
St. Andrews Presby  
St. Bonaventure Un  
St. Charles Borrom  
St. John's Universi  
St. Joseph's Univer  
St. Louis Universi



## ing Class of 2007

Conor Eamon McCarthy  
Jonathan E. McCracken  
Reid Alexander McCrea  
Thomas Patrick McGoldrick  
John Donald McGrath  
Patrick Joseph McLaughlin  
Brynn Elizabeth McMullan  
Patrick James Meiburg  
Alexandria Christine Mesa  
Caitlin Michelle Moorman  
Joseph Elliot Moster

Joshua Daniel Pesavento  
Virginia Lucille Phillips  
Scott Michael Piccola  
Laura Michelle Pincus  
Kane Russell Podraza  
Alyssa Erin Poole  
Melissa Rose Porcaro  
Samantha Anne Poulsen  
Candace Laura Pyun  
Emily Catharine Raffensperger  
Allyson Marie Razzeto

## men and women of ice and leadership in d community.

Satie Rachael Munn  
Emily Anne Murray  
Alexander Craig Myers  
Caitlin Alice Neal  
John Nicholas Nelli  
William Joseph Nemesi  
Mary Catherine Newell  
Katherine Elizabeth Newns  
Catherine Ann Norris  
Clara Sullivan Norris  
Christine Alexandra O'Connell  
Kelsey Lynn O'Leary  
Eric Stephen Olsen  
Luke James-Earl O'Rourke  
Matthew Joseph Ostuni  
John Edward Owen  
Bianca Sterlyng Owens  
Caitlin Cecilia Owens  
Shirley Marri Parker  
Brett Leigh Patterson  
Sindy Elisa Peña  
Tiana Borghoff Perry

Maura Charlotte Reilly  
Alexandra Christine Rhode  
Grant William Richards  
Benjamin Adam Richter  
Joseph Anthony Ristaino  
Matthew Philip Roberts  
Melanie Katherine Roberts  
Colin Frederick Rom  
Sarah Lynn Rosenquest  
Michael Jerome Rudolph  
Andrew Deacon Rufty  
Amanda Lyn Sampson  
Carly Brynn Savage  
Melissa Margaret Sayre  
Angelica Jude Scarzafava  
Karen Lynn Schaefer  
Sarah Mildred Schanz  
Kevin Joseph Schellenberger  
Adam Hubert Schindzielorz  
Theresa Maria Elisabeth Schramm  
Joseph Frank Peterson Secoura  
Sean Haslett Sewell

Daniel Mark Shaefer  
Matthew Patrick Shannon  
Caitlin Eve Sheffield  
Margaret Keniston Shehan  
Meghan Elizabeth Sherrill  
Matthew James Shinnors  
Emily Katherine Simpson  
Julianne Patricia Smith  
Whitney Brooke Smolan  
Sarah Jon Christine Stanton  
Fiona Kelly Steer  
Caitlin Rose Steigerwald  
Allison Lauren Stevens  
William John Stewart  
Jenna Patrice St. Pierre  
Mary Alice Strange  
Alyssa Ross Strazanac  
Kristen Elizabeth Sugg  
Jeffrey Polk Swain, Jr.  
Kathryn Marie Szarek  
Jesse Colin Tanas  
Taylor Andrew Tate  
Stephen Lee Thorn  
Jenna Lauren Tomalski  
Michael Baker Trevillian  
Tyson Victoria Upham  
Matthew Thomas Upton  
Madelyn Gennee Vital  
James Mitchell Vogel  
Emily Ridgely Waddey  
Jared Thomas Walklet  
Bridget Kathryn Walsh  
Charles Edward Walsh, Jr.  
Andrew Curry Walters  
Steven Nicholas Walters  
Michael Stephen Warren  
David Andrew Watson  
Nicholas Gavin Paul Weigle  
Brandon Anthony Whitecross  
Christopher Freeman Williams  
Joshua Ronald Williams  
Patricia Marie Williams  
Katherine Louise Williford  
Andrew William Wyker  
Matthew Charles Zaetz  
Christine Miriam Zagrobelny  
David Andrew Zbierski  
Christopher Richard Zimmerman



♦ 919.834.1625 ♦ [www.cghsnc.org](http://www.cghsnc.org)

## S TO WHICH THE CLASS OF 2007 HAS BEEN ACCEPTED

St. Mary's College  
St. Mary's University  
St. Mary's University of Minnesota  
St. Vincent College  
San Diego State University  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
Sewanee, The University of the South  
Smith College  
Stanford University  
SUNY, NY  
SUNY, Cortland  
Syracuse University  
The Citadel  
The College of William & Mary  
The King's College  
Trinity University  
UNC-Asheville

UNC-Chapel Hill  
UNC-Greensboro  
UNC-Pembroke  
UNC-Wilmington  
United States Marine Corps  
United States Military Academy  
United States Naval Academy  
United States Naval Academy-Prep School  
University of Alabama  
University of Central Florida  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Colorado  
University of Dallas  
University of Dayton  
University of Delaware  
University of Detroit Mercy  
University of Georgia

University of Mary Washington  
University of Massachusetts-Amherst  
University of Miami-Ohio  
University of Minnesota  
University of Mississippi  
University of Missouri  
University of North Florida  
University of New Hampshire  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Richmond  
University of San Diego  
University of Scranton  
University of South Carolina  
University of South Carolina-Beaufort  
University of St. Thomas  
University of Tennessee  
University of the Arts  
University of Virginia

University of Wisconsin  
Valparaiso University  
Vanderbilt University  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University  
Wake Forest University  
Wake Technical Community College  
West Virginia University  
Western Carolina University  
Widener University  
Williams College  
Wingate University  
Winston-Salem State University  
Winthrop University  
Worcester Polytech Institute  
Xavier University



# Unidas

## en espíritu, unidas en servicio

En el Fuerte militar Bragg, las esposas católicas de los soldados se sienten en familia muy lejos de casa.

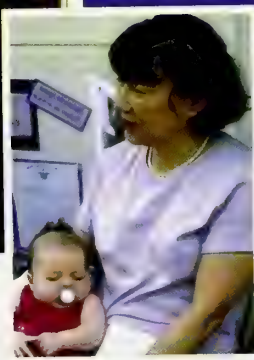
**U**na vez por semana en el Fuerte militar Bragg, la gigante instalación de la armada Estadounidense, ubicada en Fayetteville, Carolina del Norte, entre 20 a 30 mujeres católicas se reúnen para socializar, orar, servir y ayudar a cada una en sus diferentes etapas de la vida, como esposas de los hombres al servicio militar. En el evangelio de Juan (capítulo 15), después que Jesús les comanda a sus discípulos “ámense los unos a los otros” “Nadie tiene amor más grande que el dar la vida por sus amigos” Mientras que los esposos de muchas de estas mujeres están arriesgando sus vidas en Irak o Afganistán. Estas mujeres ofrecen sus vidas las unas a las otras de distintas maneras; como hermanas y compañías espirituales, a través de alegrías, durante el matrimonio, procesos de maternidad, las constantes mudanzas, la soledad y a veces, durante la terrible pérdida del ser querido.

“Es cierto que la vida militar es dura” dice Susan, “especialmente si tu esposo es desplegado, pero con la ayuda de buenos amigos, puedes superar cualquier circunstancia.”

“Hermanas en Espíritu, Hermanas en Servicio” es el lema del Consejo Militar de Mujeres Católicas (MCCW) por sus siglas en inglés. El MCCW a nivel mundial, es la organización oficial del Arzobispado militar estadounidense, cuyas sedes están en casi todas las bases militares estadounidenses en el mundo. La presidenta de la sede de Fort Bragg, Susan Fletcher, es una alegre y energética joven que lleva la batuta del grupo: “La pasamos muy bien. La mayoría de nosotros no tiene a ningún familiar cerca y este grupo se convierte en parte de la familia cuando estamos lejos de casa” señala.

Susan describe una típica reunión de los martes por la mañana durante el año escolar, en una reunión no oficial con siete miembros del grupo y por lo menos, el doble de niños. También hay sesiones los martes por la noche para mujeres que no pueden asistir por la mañana. “Esas reuniones son un poco más tranquilas que la del día de hoy” Susan sonríe. “Tenemos servicio gratis de guardería para los más pequeños, puesto que los otros niños están en la escuela, así que solo somos los bebés y nosotras. Normalmente, algunos de nosotros traen comida para socializar, luego, nos congregamos por una devoción. Tenemos un líder de devoción, cuyo trabajo es hacer que todas nosotras tengamos el mismo estado mental. Después, sigo con mi trabajo, continuo con algún proyecto u comenzar uno distinto. Los demás miembros traen algunos asuntos para discutir y después, vamos a nuestro rutinario estudio de la Biblia.” Un estudio enfocado en la mujer en el Nuevo Testamento. En la actualidad, el grupo está elaborando un estudio de las Escrituras con respecto a María.

El último punto de la agenda es el círculo de oración: “Allí es donde compartimos nuestra intención” explica una de las mujeres.





Susan continua diciendo: "El tercer martes de cada mes tenemos Misa, Rosario y cumplimos con nuestros proyectos." Son muchos los proyectos; por ejemplo: han incluido la elaboración de 100 rosarios para la primera comunión, organizar un picnic de la parroquia, elaborar tarjetas para los soldados en el exterior, el intercambio de artículos de vestir (las mujeres intercambian artículos de vestir entre ellas, a medida que sus hijos crecen y otros nacen, haciendo donativos al Centro de Caridad Católica. "Llenamos un camión entero" dice Susan.) El grupo elabora durante la cuaresma "sopas...cenas" y recientemente, iniciaron la Operación Abastece la Biblioteca (mirar recuadro) etc. En otro proyecto, todos los miembros obtienen certificados como Ministros de Eucarísticos.

Uno de los eventos más grandes que realiza este grupo, "Renovación Matrimonial – Cena bailable" requiere todo un año de organización. Este evento se realiza cerca del día de san Valentín para todas las parejas de la base, activas o retiradas. Éste comienza con una Misa y la renovación de los Votos Matrimoniales, seguido por una cena y baile en el Club de Oficiales. Sandra Hill, cuyo esposo es retirado, destaca la importancia de este

evento para el MCCW. "Este grupo involucra a toda la comunidad y hacen reconocer nuestra labor"

El "Servicio de Sidra" es otra actividad; cada mujer trae una especia diferente a la reunión de oración, donde se sirve la sidra de manzana y explican que cualidad en particular de la mujer se representa con dicha especia.

Algunas actividades del grupo son meramente sociales, como por ejemplo: juegos o noche de películas, grupos de juegos para niños y cenas. Ellas proveen niñeras para aquellos que necesitan de ese servicio.

**Las mujeres reunidas** hoy en día hablan del impacto que ejerce este grupo en sus vidas, tanto espiritual como social. "Tenemos una amplia gama de edades y experiencias," dice Susan Fletcher. "No importa cuál sea tu situación, no importa qué preguntas tengas, alguien del grupo a pasado por una situación similar y conoce la respuesta"

Una joven madre de raíces Católicas proveniente de Connecticut comentó, que la mudanza a Carolina del Norte despertó su fe, cuando trasladaron a su esposo al Fuerte militar Bragg, "Siempre me he identificado como católica," dice, "pero nunca hice mucho al respecto, hasta que conseguí a este grupo, ahora aprendo cosas nuevas

acerca de mi fe en cada reunión. Estudiamos apología, el cual es muy útil en un área donde el Catolicismo es en realidad una minoría. Pienso que Dios me envió a Carolina del Norte para desafiar mi fe.

Otra mujer comenta, "Cuando yo llegue aquí, estaba embarazada, solitaria, y éstas personas fueron muy agradables"

Un tercer miembro describe la educación espiritual que ha recibido: "Aprendemos de las experiencias de cada una" dice. "Existen diversos niveles de conocimiento del catolicismo, y algunas mujeres asisten al RCIA (por sus siglas en ingles) y saben con mucho más detalle la fe católica que muchas de nosotras que crecimos en la iglesia."

**En la intimidad**, el grupo apoya a miembros que atraviesan por el estrés inherente en la vida militar, especialmente, durante guerras. Las esposas de los soldados que han sido desplegados, experimentan miedo, soledad e incertidumbre del futuro. Estas mujeres son obligadas a ser madre y padre de sus hijos. Sin embargo, sienten una sensación de alivio cuando regresan los esposos, pero tienen la gran tarea de reajustar a todos los miembros de la familia en el papel que tenían antes de partir. Este papel no puede reasumirse automáticamente, debido a que sus hijos se encuentran en una etapa de desarrollo diferente. El resultado de dicho estrés, es muy conocido por las esposas de los soldados.

"Esto es lo grandioso de este grupo" dice una de las damas. "ellas te entienden. Ellas seguro aprendieron una manera de sobrellevar la situación que yo no había tomado en cuenta" A la hora de la tragedia, el apoyo de fe y amor de las "hermanas" es crucial. "Es cierto que la vida militar es dura" dice Susan, "especialmente si tu esposo es desplegado, pero con la ayuda de buenos amigos, puedes superar cualquier circunstancia."

## Oración a nuestra Señora del Buen Consejo

**Patrona del Consejo Militar de Mujeres Católicas**  
**Día de celebración, 26 de abril**

Señor de sabiduría divina,  
Quien nos ha entregado a su propia Madre María  
A ser nuestra guía y consejera en nuestras vidas,  
Concedemos la gracia  
De recibir instrucción maternal y  
La abundancia de la humildad y el amor.

Madre del Buen Consejo, Patrona  
Ayúdanos a comprender y realizar  
La decisión y la voluntad de tu Hijo Celestial, Jesucristo

Bajo la bendición del Padre

Y el poder del Espíritu Santo,  
Seamos responsables e inteligentes  
Hijas de la Iglesia

Trabajemos en el espíritu de renovación  
Para consumir en perfección el Reino  
de Dios entre nosotros  
Como verdadera preparación de  
nuestro lugar en el  
Reino del Cielo  
Amen.

\*Esta oración fue escrita por el Monseñor Robert J. Dwyer, D.D, Obispo de Reno, para la 33 Convención Nacional del Consejo Nacional de Mujeres Católicas.





## Estimado NCC: ¿Cómo la Iglesia determina si un santo canonizado, como San Cristóbal, deja de serlo?

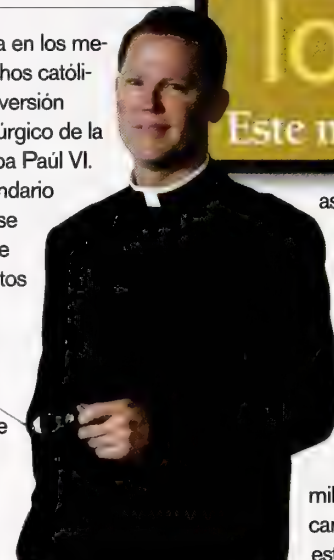
**E**n 1969, surgió la pregunta en los medios seculares y entre muchos católicos, cuando se difundió la versión corregida del calendario litúrgico de la Iglesia universal, por el Papa Paúl VI.

En aquella versión, se eliminaron del calendario algunas celebraciones de santos, a otros se les asignaron diferentes días, y además, se agregaron otros días festivos para los santos recientemente canonizados. Ésta no ha sido la primera revisión del calendario de la Iglesia, ya que han habido muchas más revisiones desde aquel entonces.

Durante los primeros siglos de la vida de la Iglesia, podemos observar que comunidades locales celebraban la conmemoración de mártires difuntos, y se acostumbraba casi siempre durante la celebración de la Eucaristía en su favor. Algunos mártires fueron reconocidos de inmediato por comunidades vecinas y se repartieron listas o catálogos por toda la Iglesia. San Martín de Tours, murió pacíficamente alrededor del año 397 d.C.; es uno de los primeros santos recordados en la Eucaristía anual (confesores) que no forma parte de los santos mártires. Es recordado por sus virtudes heroicas al igual que por sus milagros que atribuyeron con su intersección, celebrándose así, cada 11 de noviembre, a lo largo de Europa donde se construyeron muchas capillas e Iglesias en su honor.

Se puede observar en esta historia superficial que la veneración de los santos comenzó como un fenómeno local y lo sigue siendo hoy en día. Cuando la santidad de un miembro difunto de la comunidad católica es reconocido por el Pueblo de Dios, el obispo local tiene la posibilidad de introducir una "causa" a la Santa Sede, que ahora posee la decisión final y la autoridad para determinar si la Iglesia permitirá la veneración pública de dicha persona. Esto siempre tiene su punto de inicio a nivel local y se realiza por medio de una serie de investigaciones, autorizadas por Roma: (dónde vivió o falleció la persona) y cuál Obispo tenía autoridad en ese momento. Todas estas investigaciones le permiten al Papa, determinar si la persona bajo el nombre de "Siervo de Dios" puede ser reconocido como venerable, bendecido o incluso, santo. La Iglesia, además investiga la legitimidad de los milagros alegados, los cuales se reciben con anterioridad a su beatificación y canonización.

Durante la mayor parte del primer milenio, el recurso de Roma para la beatificación y canonización no era requisito. De hecho, la primera canonización pública por el Papa fue la de San Ulric, Obispo de Augsburgo; quien falleció en el año 973 d.C., y fue canonizado por el Papa Juan XV en el año 993. Con prontitud, se tomó atractivo para las iglesias locales canonizar a los santos por el Pontífice de Roma. De esta manera, los santos fueron colocados en una lista oficial reconocida por la Iglesia Romana. A finales del siglo diez, los papas comenzaron a restringir la autoridad de los Obispos para canonizar, a pesar de que con frecuencia, las beatificaciones eran un



J. Denmark

# Ya que usted lo pregunta...

Este mes con el Padre James F. Garneau

asunto local.

En 1643, el Papa Urbano VII decretó que el rito de beatificación y canonización pertenece exclusivamente al papa. Un "oficio", la Congregación Sagrada de Ritos, tiene el propósito de estudiar la vida y los milagros atribuidos a los candidatos a la santidad, establecido en 1588 y reorganizado en 1969 (la actual

Congregación para las Causas de los Santos) Es responsabilidad de estos grupos, determinar y recomendar al Santo Padre la aceptación de martirio, virtudes heroicas y los milagros de los diversos Siervos de Dios. La decisión de proceder en cualquier momento durante el proceso, recae en el Papa. En los últimos siglos, se ha entendido que la beatificación permite la veneración de los bendecidos a nivel local. La canonización llama a la veneración universal de aquellos reconocidos como santos de la Iglesia. Es de opinión pública de muchos teólogos que la canonización es un acto infalible de autoridad papal, definiendo que el canonizado ahora es parte de la Comunión de Santos en el cielo.

En el actual calendario litúrgico, existen cuatro niveles de práctica de los bendecidos y de los santos: las solemnidades, las festividades, las conmemoraciones obligatorias y las opcionales. Además, existe un calendario universal del Rito Latino, el cual estipula la práctica a ser celebrada por todos, por medio de una Misa, Liturgia de Horas y cuales son opcionales. Asimismo, la conferencia nacional de obispos puede determinar, con la aprobación de la Santa Sede, días festivos adicionales que se observan en una nación o región. Comunidades religiosas, diócesis y parroquias pueden además tener calendarios particulares, dependiendo

de la devoción y tradición local, por ejemplo: (el día festivo de un fundador, del santo patrono o de algún santo que vivió alguna vez en la diócesis) Sin embargo, no todos los santos canonizados o los reconocidos por la Iglesia han sido formalmente canonizados (como San Cristóbal) cuyo día se observa de forma universal o local.

Cuando el calendario litúrgico de el Rito Latino sufrió una reforma en 1969, fue el deseo del Papa Paúl VI de agregar más santos de alrededor del mundo y en diferentes estados de vida (solteros, casados, laicos, clero, etc.) Esto requirió la eliminación de muchos otros santos del calendario, que nunca fueron canonizados formalmente y quienes biografías carecían de evidencia histórica. Por ejemplo: San Cristóbal siempre ha sido un santo muy popular, cuya fama deriva de leyendas medievales, las cuales son contradictorias en su mayoría.

La eliminación de su día festivo del calendario universal no significó su eliminación de la lista de santos. Es apropiado, que San Cristóbal sea honrado con mayor prioridad por la parroquia que lleva su nombre (solemnidad) a pesar de que su día festivo no es obligatorio para la Iglesia universal. Igualmente, la conmemoración de Santa Elizabeth Ann Seton, la primera santa norteamericana, se observa el 2 de enero entre las diócesis de los Estados Unidos, mas no en otros lugares. En el pontificado del Papa Juan Pablo II, se agregaron nuevos santos al calendario, como la de San Padre Pio, además de realizarse muchas otras canonizaciones. Sin duda alguna, el calendario universal y local continuará en revisión, para proveer nuevos y convincentes ejemplos de santidad para nuestra imitación.

— El Padre James F. Garneau, Ph.D. es el Pastor de la Parroquia de St. Mary en Mount Olive, NC.



**E**n ésta edición de *NC Catholics*, exploramos la “caridad” como fruto del Espíritu Santo (lo que se traduce como amor en algunas ocasiones) En la edición anterior, describí que el fruto, es la forma de expresar y hacer visible los regalos del Espíritu Santo hacia Dios y hacia los demás.

La caridad, es una de las formas de manifestar la presencia de Dios a los demás. Para el creyente, la caridad va mas allá del simple hecho de hacer algo bueno por alguien; la caridad, en lo más profundo, manifiesta el amor de Dios para con los demás a través de nuestras palabras y acciones. Esta es la profunda verdad de la caridad: Dios nos ha encomendado a ser Sus instrumentos de amor. Creemos que Dios es amor, y la Trinidad es la perfección del amor. A pesar de ser perfecto y sin necesitar intermediarios, Dios nos escogió para extender el amor de la Trinidad a nosotros los mortales, los imperfectos. La voluntad de Dios es que amemos así como Él nos ha amado, lo cual hacemos visible a través de este fruto del Espíritu Santo que llamamos caridad.

La palabra “caridad” aparece en el título de los dos primeros documentos en latín del pontificado del Papa Benedicto XVI. El primer documento es la encíclica, *Deus Caritas Est* (Dios es amor) y el segundo, es su exhortación apostólica, *Sacramentum Caritatis* (El sacramento de la caridad). Utilizando la profundidad espiritual y teológica del Santo Padre,



## La Eucaristía: La fuente de la caridad

no es sorpresa que sus primeros documentos estén enfocados en Dios quien es la fuente de la caridad y de la Santa Eucaristía. El papa Benedicto, escogió a Dios y la Santa Eucaristía como las dos dimensiones de nuestra fe, dándoles prioridad en sus discursos a los católicos alrededor del mundo. El Santo Padre nos dice algo muy importante, Dios y la Santa Eucaristía deben ser nuestras prioridades.

El documento *Sacramentum Caritatis*, publicado este año, es una hermosa reflexión. El Santo Padre explica como se debe creer, celebrar y vivir la Eucaristía. Además, nos enseña que el todopoderoso es el centro de nuestras creencias, la oración litúrgica que celebramos y todo lo que envuelve la caridad en ambos sentidos: el divino y el terrenal. Él captó bien nuestras creencias en esta frase “la comunión con la Santa Trinidad y la comunión fraternal son frutos inseparables del Espíritu de la liturgia” (CCC 1108). Estas creencias se expresan en nuestras celebraciones litúrgicas en cada Misa, y es la razón fundamental de porqué debemos dar lo mejor de nosotros a Dios, en la Misa y en la vida propia. Para lograrlo, expresa el fruto del Espíritu Santo que llamamos caridad en la manera más hermosa posible.

Que nuestra Madre María de Dios, cuya perfecta caridad se hizo carne, los guíe siempre. — Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh

## God is love... How do you know God loves you?

►► This month we asked fourth- and fifth-graders from St. Therese School in Wilson: **How do you know God loves you?**



### Taja, Grade 5

When I pray I feel like a voice is talking back to me and that makes me feel like God is real and He's really listening.



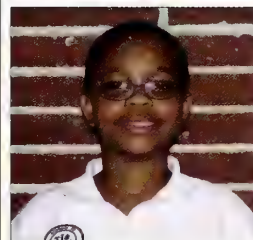
### Brittney, Grade 4

I know God loves me because He put me on this earth. I am His child and He loves everyone.



### Lauren, Grade 5

I know God loves me because of the way He helps me get through tough times. He helps me make good decisions.



### William, Grade 5

God has given me my family and friends. He also let me get out of bed this morning And He gives me second chances.



### Christopher, Grade 4

I know God loves me for who I am and whatever I will become. I know He will love me if I'm tall, short, fat, skinny or strong.



### Adou, Grade 4

I know God loves me because he blesses me every day. He gives me the courage to do the right thing.



# Spiritual progress through purity

how to rid your soul of impurities

**“W**hat dirty windows we have here!” That was the comment of a group of workers who came to volunteer their time to clean the church and rectory.

They were right. The windows were dirty. It was hard to look through them and clearly see what was outside. Not only that, the light from outside was diminished and insufficient to illuminate the interior of the rooms.

This situation is a good analogy of our souls' relation to God. Our souls were created to be like windows that are open to God. God's presence fills us as light fills a room. The purity of our souls allows God's light to shine within us. A soul that is not pure cannot see God because the impurities block God from entering the soul and block the person's vision of God.

What does it mean to have impurities inside the soul? Impurities are a soul's attachment to things, images, memories and desires that block a person from considering the truth about God and about one's relationship with God. Impurities weaken the will and discourage a person. Impurities are very harmful. A person loses the will to have a clean soul and allow God to come inside. A person with an impure heart will lose faith and not want to pray or go to church anymore. The impurities are like mud that a person is wallowing in and cannot escape from. People may lose heart and despair. They may throw in the towel and give themselves over

to their impurities, and their condition will grow worse.

For example, there was a young person who got on the Internet and, without his parents' knowing, got curious and went to some sites that had pornography on them. Before long, the person got other buddies to join in, and the whole group of them began to find other sites. In a short while, many of them could not stop thinking about these images. The parents of the young man began to suspect something was wrong because they noticed a change in their son. He did not want to go to Mass anymore and did not seem interested in doing things with the family. He kept to himself more and more and they noticed he was up very late at night. The young man was trapped. He had boarded up the windows of his soul to keep his behavior a secret. The light of God was not able to get in.

Of course, God does not stop shining on us. Even a dirty window does allow some light to get in! In the case of this young man, he began to realize what he was doing was very wrong. He felt

miserable inside. He started to act out his sexual thoughts through masturbation, which brought him only more sadness. His experience of God's light and presence when he was younger did not leave him and he longed for it.

God came to his aid and helped move the young man to go to the sacrament of reconciliation. He had to close the windows of his soul to all forms of pornography and sexual images. He had to wash the windows of his soul with prayer and the sacraments. He had to go through a purgation that eliminated the impurities inside. It took patience and perseverance through trials and falls. He had to learn to trust God and surrender to God. The more he did so, the easier it became. God was cleaning his windows for him. The light and brightness of his personality came back!

We all must go through a purgation of our soul if we want a closer relationship with God. As time goes on, and we respond to the grace of purification, we will find our prayer life changing as well. The doctors of the Church, such as St. John of the Cross and others, describe three classical stages of the spiritual life – the purgative, illuminative and unitive ways. Because of the limited scope of this article, I will not be able to go into much detail about each stage, especially the unitive way and the experience called the dark night of the soul. Let's just say that as one draws closer to union with God, God continues to purify the soul through passive purifications that are experienced by the person as “dark nights.” It is as though God has left them. The words of Jesus on the cross come to mind, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Ps 22)

Our spiritual journey to God begins with an awakening of faith. God becomes real! We then realize in our relationship with God we must make a choice. Either we make a choice for God, or not. We are in the purgative way. That is where the major impurities of our soul are purged. Our focus is moral integration, living the commandments, overcoming sin, growing in faith and trust in God. We struggle along they way.



## ► spiritual exercise – meditation and contemplation

- 1 Prayerfully read John 9.** It is the story of Jesus healing the man born blind. Meditate on the story by imagining yourself to be the blind man as you read it.
- 2 Ponder what it would be like to be blind.** Imagine yourself trying to do the various things you do now without the power to see. How does it feel to be in darkness? Spiritually we are all blind until God gives us the gift to see. Seeing is receiving the gift of faith. Our spiritual sight is clouded and darkened by sin.
- 3 Ask Jesus to come into your soul.** Pray, "Jesus, you are the light of the world. O Radiant Light, O Son Divine, shed your light on me. Help me to see myself as you see me. Help me to see my sin and impurities." Pray this prayer slowly from your heart. Imagine yourself as the blind man who was just given sight by Jesus. You open your eyes for the first time and you are looking directly into the face of Jesus your Savior. He is with you as light helping you to see.
- 4 Express your love for Jesus as your heart is moved to.** At any time – and I mean any time! – when you feel yourself drawn deeper in the prayer where you experience your mind becoming recollected and quiet and focused and peaceful, and you feel your heart being drawn to God – just let yourself go where the Spirit is leading you. Do not break away from this pull and tug from God to focus back on the mediation. Let your mind be docile before God. This prayer is more felt but it will engage all of you. If a person is generous in living the Gospel and generous in the amount of time they spend in prayer with God, God will lead them to union and contemplation. This is not just for some, but is intended for all. Keep the windows of the soul clean and God will shine all the time. Even in the dark night – God is shining so bright that the powers of the soul are totally blinded by Him.

We sometimes fall. We get back up. We keep going. There are trials of faith, moral trials and trials of trust. Our prayer life at this time is mostly characterized by petition prayer – "Dear God, help!"

In time, we learn to spend more time with God. We grow more comfortable with prayer. We begin to practice a form of prayer that is called meditation. Meditation is when we think about the life of Jesus in the Gospels, or some truth of the faith. Some people are blessed with a good imagination and are able to picture the biblical scene in their minds. The movie "The Passion of the Christ" has some powerful images in it concerning the suffering of Jesus that could be a good aid in meditation. Stations of the Cross or holy pictures can help. Nature offers plenty of food for thought, too! God teaches us much through meditation.

Sometimes, after a person has learned to pray this way, they may find their hearts and minds growing quieter and still. Distractions disappear.



Their heart longs for more. Our heart aches and pines for God. They have come to a deeper recollection of spirit, and their prayer is more felt. Prayer is simple and comes more from the heart. Instead of just petition prayers, there are prayers of heartfelt thanks and praise, gratitude and attitudes of love and devotion. At times, a person may find oneself being caught up in a deep and powerful encounter with God. This is the beginning of contemplative meditation, or even simple contemplation that is characteristic of the illuminative way.

Most of the spiritual authors I have ever read make a big distinction at this point in terms of prayer. Meditation is a prayer form we can do with the help of God, but our efforts are very important.

Contemplation is a sheer gift of God that requires no effort on the part of the person receiving this gift! Contemplative prayer is something that God initiates. Nevertheless, contemplative prayer can be prepared for by our efforts. It usually does not occur until a person has made good spiritual progress along the way. The virtues of humility, purity, generosity, faith, hope and love are more strongly rooted in the person. The windows of the soul are wide open to God, and God enters in as God chooses. The person is supernaturally one with God. For we "have died, and our lives are hidden with Christ in God." (Col 3:3)

The gift of contemplative prayer is united to the gift of union with God Himself. It is something God wants for all of us! No exceptions. How do we keep moving along the journey? We can keep our windows clean and God will take us there! – Fr. Bill Ashbaugh



## Diocese plans WYD 2008 pilgrimage to Sydney

►► The Diocese of Raleigh is planning a pilgrimage to Sydney, Australia to participate in World Youth Day, July 2008, according to Youth Ministry Director Mike Hagarty. The pilgrimage is available to youth (16-18), their qualified chaperones (minimum age 25), and young adults (18-39). The event will last 10 days, culminating with a Mass celebrated by Pope Benedict XVI.



Hagarty estimates the cost of participation at \$3,799, subject to gas prices, the number attending, etc. "That's a lot," said Hagarty, who has attended two World Youth Days, "but it will be an experience of universal Church unlike any you have ever experienced." An estimated 1 million people (perhaps 100,000 from the U.S.) are expected to converge in Sydney next summer, which is Australia's winter. "More than anything else," Hagarty explained, "World Youth Day is about pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is a sacred journey. Although going to Australia may sound glamorous, you will be in an airplane for about 24 hours each way. There are hotel accommodations for most nights, but there is also a miles-long pilgrimage walk, leading to an all-night vigil outdoors, on the ground in winter. The idea of pilgrimage is to find God on the journey, but it doesn't always mean that the sun shines and all connections are made and great food is readily available. Sacrifice and flexibility are definitely going to be part of this trip."

The deadline for registration is July 29. For a packet with more information, contact Mike Hagarty at 919.821.9770 or Hagarty@raldioc.org.

## Sisters of Notre Dame to celebrate 35 Years in NC

►► On Aug. 4, the Sisters of Notre Dame will celebrate 35 years of ministry in North Carolina. To mark the an-

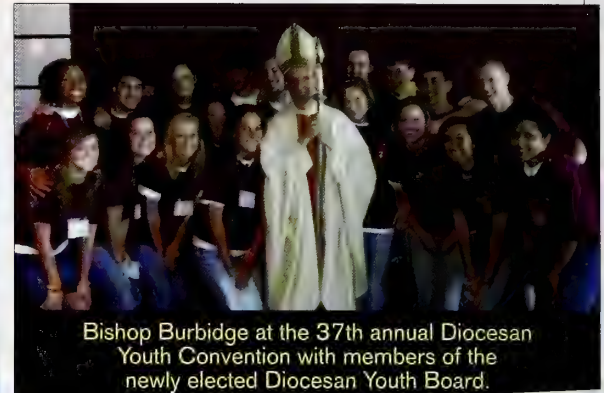


niversary, a statue of St. Julie Billiart, spiritual mother of the Sisters, will be dedicated and blessed at Cardinal Gibbons Catholic High School in Raleigh. Bishop Michael Burbidge will celebrate Mass in honor of the sisters, many of whom will be in attendance. A reception will follow. For more information, please contact Rachelle Garbarine in the Cardinal Gibbons Development Office at 919.834.1625, ext. 206 or rgarbarine@cghsnc.org.

## Sister Miriam Regina (Mary Ann Brosnan), C.S.C.

►► Sister Miriam Regina Brosnan, C.S.C., died in Kensington, Md., on June 6 at the age of 80. Sister Miriam

Regina was a dedicated teacher and school administrator. She ministered in elementary education in Raleigh as a teacher at Our Lady of Lourdes from 1967-1968 and from 1969-1975, and returned there as principal from 1978 to 1984. She also served as teacher or principal at schools in Indiana, Maryland, New York, Texas, Virginia and Washington, DC.



Bishop Burbidge at the 37th annual Diocesan Youth Convention with members of the newly elected Diocesan Youth Board.

## 800 attend annual Youth Convention

►► Approximately 800 young people from parishes across the diocese gathered in Greenville May 18-20 for the 37th Annual Diocesan Youth Convention.

Titled the "Ascension Convention," the assembly featured workshops on a variety of topics including "Marriage 101: The Do's and Don'ts Before You Walk Down the Aisle," "My Body, My Choice/Project Rachel" and "My Space," which looked at the dangers that exist on the Internet for teens and children. Other sessions included planning for World Youth Day 2008 and a workshop titled "Tsunami Victims" presented by Pius and Mary Gabriel, who became involved in helping survivors of the killer tsunami that took thousands of lives on Dec. 26, 2004. The Gabriel family committed themselves to helping orphans in Sri Lanka, one of the countries impacted by the killer wave. They continue their outreach to this day.

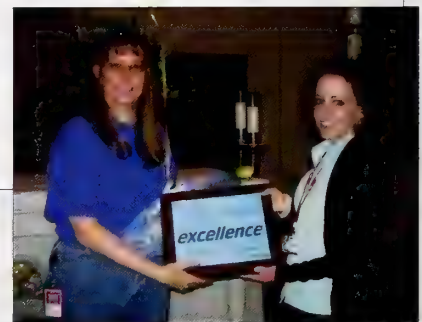
The convention concluded with Mass on Sunday, celebrated by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge. The youth convention is one of 18 programs sponsored by the Diocesan Office of Youth Ministry. Information on the office and its activities is available at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/youth](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/youth).



## Cathedral School wins yearbook award

►► Cathedral School's yearbook, *Knight Vision*, was recently

inducted into the Walsworth Publishing Company's 2007 Gallery of Excellence. This is a showcase of the best yearbooks that are outstanding examples of providing thorough coverage of the school year. Above parent and yearbook adviser Stephanie Tysinger (left) receives the award from Walsworth representative Jackie McLaughlin.





## Want to change the world? Become a Family Honor presenter!

►► When you become a Family Honor presenter, you become part of a life-changing, hope-filled mission! Family Honor is a Catholic organization that provides opportunities for parents and children to learn to communicate effectively on important life values with a special emphasis on the truth and goodness of human sexuality and the virtue of chastity.

### We need men and women who want to:

- share a true appreciation of sexuality as a gift from God;
- support parents in raising virtuous children;
- provide a hopeful response to negative cultural attitudes about sex;
- encourage young people to develop to their fullest potential by living healthy, chaste and loving lives.

A new course, The Principals of Teaching Family-Centered Chastity Education, is starting in August, and is the first step in becoming a Family Honor presenter. Contact Lisa Roess, 919.362.0771, or Joe Czejkowski, 919.870.7553 for more information – or visit [www.familyhonor.org](http://www.familyhonor.org).

## Bishop announces new parish

►► Bishop Michael F. Burbidge has announced the creation of a new parish, Maria, Reina de las Américas (Mary, Queen of the Americas, formerly known as La Posada Guadalupana) from territory formerly assigned to St. Mary, Mount Olive and St. Mary, Goldsboro. Fr. Edgar Sepulveda will be assigned as the first pastor. Fr. James Garneau, Pastor of St. Mary, Mt. Olive, commented on the announcement: "The growth of the Catholic community in this area of eastern North Carolina has been tremendous, and the need has been apparent for so long. I'm delighted that now the Diocese will continue to serve these Catholics in a committed and stable way."

## NC Catholic Daughters hold convention

►► The biennial state convention of the North Carolina Courts of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas was held on April 27 – 29th at the Charlotte Marriott Executive Park Hotel. The convention was opened on Friday afternoon by Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of the Charlotte Diocese; and Msgr. Mauricio West, Vicar General of the Charlotte Diocese and the State Chaplain for the Catholic Daughters. The Catholic Daughters are committed to service in their parishes and communities. A current focus is sponsoring a Habitat for Humanity house to be built in North Carolina. Attendees at the convention were urged to stay vigilant and active on right to life issues and informed on pending legislation in North Carolina.

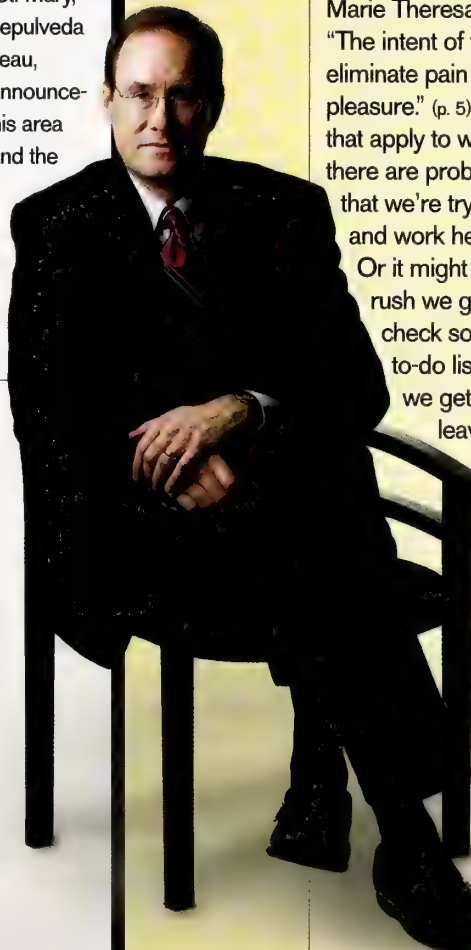
# Are you a workaholic?

## Separating ourselves from the workplace



**Carol says:** I like my job, I've been doing it for a long time and people respect my work. I'm productive and focused. My husband has been getting upset though, because many nights I don't get home until 8 p.m. or later. But we don't have any children, so it's not really a big deal, is it? I feel good at work and I'm in control. My boss likes my dedication; she says I'm her top performer. That makes me feel good, like I'm "somebody." However, I have been feeling a bit stressed lately. I find it difficult to leave anything unfinished at the end of the day, and I feel better when everything is done.

★ Carol is a mid-level manager in a large company.



### ►► The expert says:

While there is nothing wrong with wanting to do a good job, it is possible to go overboard. We've heard the term "workaholic," but what does that really mean? In their book, *O Blessed Night*, Francis Kelly Nemeck and Marie Theresa Coombs write, "The intent of the addict is to eliminate pain and to secure pleasure." (p. 5) How would that apply to work? Maybe there are problems at home that we're trying to avoid, and work helps us escape.

Or it might simply be that rush we get when we check something off our to-do list. After a while, we get nervous about leaving anything hanging, we want to get more things done, and it's hard to go home when we feel as if something isn't complete. That's when we stay late, pick up the cell phone or break

out the notebook computer. We're not satisfied until we've gotten our fix.

Is this really a problem? We tend to take it as a compliment when someone calls us a workaholic. What can be so bad about it? Nemeck and Coombs further describe an addiction as "the provider of ultimate meaning, but one which produces life-damaging effects." (p. 5) When our work becomes our sole obsession – to the point that we sacrifice our health, our relationships, or our trust in God – we really need to re-assess.

Nemeck and Coombs write that recovery is dependent upon first hitting rock bottom and coming to our senses (as did the prodigal son in Luke 15:13-17). They describe recovery as a process of dying, "Yet, in the dying process, a renewed self slowly emerges." (p. 5)

### ►► Refer to John's words:

*"Unless the grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it bears fruit abundantly." (Jn 12:24)*

– Tim Ryan



# things to do:

**Candidacy Mass for Deacon Candidates**, July 7, 5:30 p.m. at St. Raphael Church, Raleigh.

**National Black Catholic Congress**, July 12-15 at the Buffalo Convention Center, Buffalo, N.Y. Theme: "Christ is With Us: Celebrating the Gifts of the Sacraments." The NBCC will host a dynamic youth and young adult track at Congress X. Registration \$215. For more information, contact Martha Carter-Bailey at martha.bailey@raldioc.org or 919.821.9762.

**Natural Family Planning Classes.** What is the "Theology of the Body?" Has any one ever explained why the Catholic Church exclusively promotes Natural Family Planning? Learn about your faith while discovering a system of fertility awareness that is 99 percent effective, safe, healthy and morally acceptable. Class 1 of 4 started on Sunday, June 24 from 2-5 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Raleigh. Materials fee. Register now and call Jeanne & Tim at 919.786.1205 or Teri & Sal at 919.469.4226. Also, Chris and Cecelia Reynolds will teach this series starting on Thursday, Aug. 16 at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church in Raleigh. For info or registration, call the Reynolds at 919.250.3538 or the Sedits at 919.469.4226.

**Concerts of Tony Melendez.** July 13, 8-10 p.m. at Duplin County Events Center, Kenansville, NC, and July 14, 8-10 p.m. at Jordan - Matthews High School, Siler City. The main sponsor is the Diocesan Pastoral Juvenile Team (Encuentro Team). The co-sponsors are the Diocesan Office of Evangelization and Good News Ministry. The concert will be all in Spanish. Tickets are \$5 per person. Children up to 12 years old are free. For more information, contact Brother Giovanni Ada' at giovanni.ada@raldioc.org or 919.821.9713.

**Tony Meléndez en Concierto**, 13 de julio, 8 -10 p.m. en el Duplin County Events Center, Kenansville, Carolina del Norte. 14 de julio, 8:00 - 10 p.m. en Jordan - Matthews High School, Siler City, Carolina del Norte. Patrocinador Principal: El Equipo Pastoral Juvenil de la Diócesis (Encuentro Team). Patrocinantes secundarios: La Oficina Diocesana de Evangelización y el Ministerio de Buenas Noticias. El concierto es en español y el precio de las entradas es de \$5 por persona. Los niños menores de 12 años entran gratis. Para mayor información, comuníquese con Hno. Giovanni Ada por el correo electrónico: giovanni.ada@raldioc.org o por el siguiente teléfono: 919.821.9713.

**150th Anniversary Mass and Celebration**, July 29, 10 a.m. at St. Anne Church, Edenton.

**Upcoming retreats at Avila Retreat Center**, 711 Mason Rd., Durham, 27712. To register or for more information, call 919.477.1285.

**Come and See: A Photojournalist's Journey into the World of Mother Teresa.** July 20-21, Fri. 7 p.m. - Sat. 4 p.m. The retreat will focus on the work and influence of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta and how it relates to our present circumstances in the world today. Presenter/author Linda Schaefer will share her personal journey with Mother Teresa in 1995. Donation: \$75.

**Weekend for Engaged Couples**, July 27-29, Fri. 7 p.m. - Sun. noon. Contact: Linda Bedo, marriage preparation and enrichment consultant, Raleigh Diocese, 919.821.9753.

**Sandwiched Spirituality: Filling the Center with Prayerfulness**, Aug. 17-19, Fri. 7 p.m. - Sun. 11 a.m. This retreat is an opportunity to breathe, laugh, relax and be re-created. It is time for rediscovering, pondering, sharing and delighting in the fact that God lives in us uniquely as members of the Sandwich Generation who are caring for children and parents simultaneously. Those who feel caught between the pressures of work or school and family will also benefit from this retreat. Presenter Fran Salone-Pelletier is a professional religious educator with a Master's degree in theology. In addition to her experience as a director of religious education in various parishes, she has taught religion courses on the college level. She is the author of *Awakening to God; the Sunday Readings in Our Daily Lives*. Donation: \$120.

**Pray as you can ... not as you can't.** Tuesday, Aug. 21, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Do you feel overwhelmed by St. Paul's challenge to "Pray Always"? Are you feeling stuck in rote prayers or feeling guilty about distractions? Do you think everyone else is praying well while you are scarcely praying? This retreat day offers the comfort and challenge of learning to pray as you can - and loving it! Presenter Fran Salone-Pelletier is presently facilitator of two Bible study groups and gives spiritual retreats and workshops. She is the religion columnist for the *Brunswick Beacon* and is on the editorial staff of *The American Catholic*. Donation: \$30.

**Llamados a Servir**, course five, will be held in the Hartigan Room at the Catholic Center on Saturday and Sunday, August 18 and 19. This diocesan lay ministry formation program is open to native speakers of Spanish with the recommendation of their pastors. Advance registration is required. For information in Spanish call 919.821.9738; for information in English call 919.821.9715.

**Llamados a servir:** el curso cinco, será dictado en el Hartigan Room en el Centro Católico el sábado 18 y domingo 19 de agosto. Este programa de formación del ministerio laico está dirigido a personas que hablan español, con la debida recomendación de sus pastores. La inscripción es con anticipación. Para más información en español llamar al siguiente teléfono: 919.821.9738 o en inglés al 919.821.9715.

**Topics at Topsail Beach Retreat**, July 20-22 and Aug. 17-19 at Christian Family Living Center, 2006 Wicker Street, North Topsail Beach, 28460. Join 20- and 30-somethings from around the Diocese of Raleigh for a weekend of relaxation and faith formation at the beach. The schedule includes presentations, small and large group discussions and activities, prayer and song, liturgy, gourmet food, and lots of free beach time at beautiful Topsail Island. For more information, contact Kathleen Kozak at kathleen.kozak@raldioc.org or 919.821.9772.

**African Ancestry Ministry & Evangelization Unity Mass and Picnic**, July 28, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at St. Alphonsus Center, 810 Reid Street East, Wilson, 27893. Mass of the Unity of Christians, followed by the Annual Unity Picnic. Contact Wilena McPhatter at mcphatterw@raldioc.org or 252.243.7592.



**Tenth Annual Hispanic Catechists meeting**, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Raleigh, July 28, 9 a.m.. Bishop Burbidge will preside at Mass. For information, call 919.821.9738.



**35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass of Ministry in the Diocese by the Sisters of Notre Dame**, Aug. 4, 5 p.m. at Cardinal Gibbons High School, Raleigh.

**African Ancestry Recognition Award Banquet**, Aug. 4, 6 - 11:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Capital Center Hotel, Raleigh. This annual banquet recognizes leaders in African Ancestry Ministry & Evangelization. We will also honor individuals in the Diocese of Raleigh who have shown their support for the African and the African American Community. Cost: TBA. For more information contact Martha Carter-Bailey at [martha.bailey@raldioc.org](mailto:martha.bailey@raldioc.org) or 919.821.9762.

**Contemporary Bioethics and Catholicism**, an online seminar from Catholic Distance University. Seminar runs Aug. 6 - 27. Earn 1 CEU. Instructor: William Saunders. Cost: \$130. Register at [www.cdu.edu](http://www.cdu.edu) or by phone at 1.888.254.4238. Registration Deadline: July 27. For more information, contact Robert Jones at [Rob.Jones@raldioc.org](mailto:Rob.Jones@raldioc.org) or 919.821.9740.

**Saint Monica Celebration**, Aug. 26 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Raleigh. The African Ancestry Chapters will come and celebrate Saint Monica with former members of Saint Monica Parish and School. The Saint Monica Award is presented at the end of Mass. Mass at noon, celebrated by Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden. For more information, contact Martha Carter-Bailey at [martha.bailey@raldioc.org](mailto:martha.bailey@raldioc.org) or 919.821.9762.

**Convocation Mass for Cardinal Gibbons High School**, Aug. 28, 9:40 a.m. at the high school.

**Convocation Mass for St. Thomas More Academy**, Aug. 28, 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Church, Raleigh.

Catholic Charities of the Dioceses of Raleigh and Richmond will sponsor a **Parish Social Ministry Training** conference, Sept. 28 - noon Sept. 30 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Raleigh. This is an opportunity for people in the parishes to gain practical, hands-on skills, to be inspired and to share parish experiences. Keynote speakers include Father Bryan Massingale, S.T.D., associate professor of theology, Marquette University; Jack Jezreel, founder and executive director, JustFaith Ministries; and Marie Dennis, director, Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns. Workshops will provide skills to answer the Church's fundamental call to its social mission. Bishop Burbidge will celebrate the liturgy on Sept. 29. View a brochure and/or register via the diocesan website by going to [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/events/view.aspx?id=600](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/events/view.aspx?id=600) or you can call the registrar at 919.821.9744. For more information, contact the Office of Peace and Justice 919.821.9751.

Celebrate **Hispanic Heritage Month**. Annual Diocesan Mass to be held at St. Mark's, Wilmington, Oct. 13. Time to be announced. For more information, call the office for Hispanic Ministry at 919.821.9764 or 821.9738.

Vengan a celebrar el **Mes de la Hispanidad**. La misa anual diocesana se celebrará el 13 de octubre, 2007 en la parroquia St. Mark's de Wilmington. La hora será anunciada mas adelante. Para más información, favor de comunicarse con las oficinas del ministerio hispano al 919.821.9764 o 821.9738.

Plan now to attend the **Emmaus Conference**, Oct. 19-20, at St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh. This annual adult conference sponsored by the Division of Evangelization and Catechesis is intended for parish catechetical leaders, catechists, youth ministers, priests, liturgical ministers, young adults, school teachers, anyone and everyone involved in passing on the faith, seeking spiritual renewal and companionship. This year's theme is: *Catechesis: Encountering the Living Christ*.

## Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following priest assignments and parish and mission boundaries:

► After prayerful discernment, **Father John Gillespie**, pastor of the UNC Newman Center in Chapel Hill, has requested to be reassigned back to parish ministry. Bishop Burbidge has granted this request. Father Gillespie's last day of ministry at the UNC Newman Center was June 4, 2007.

### ► Effective June 5, 2007

- **Father Bill Quigley, C.I.C.M.**, was appointed temporary administrator at the UNC Newman Center.
- Due to the pastoral needs of the Archdiocese of Chicago, **Francis Cardinal George** has decided to suspend his plans to prepare the biography of Cardinal Mundelein. As a result, Bishop Burbidge is happy to announce that **Father James F. Gameau** will remain as pastor of St. Mary, Mount Olive, effective immediately.

### ► Effective July 10, 2007.

- **Reverend Anthony DeCandia**, newly ordained, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Patrick Parish in Fayetteville.
- **Reverend Marco Antonio Gonzalez-Hernandez**, newly ordained, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Bernadette Parish in Fuquay-Varina.
- Bishop Burbidge is pleased to announce the creation of a new parish, **María, Reina de las Américas** (Mary, Queen of the Americas), from territory formerly assigned to St. Mary, Mount Olive, the mission of the Posada Guadalupana and St. Mary, Goldsboro. Fr. Edgar Sepulveda will be assigned as the first pastor.
- The station of **St. Teresa, Pink Hill**, formerly assigned to St. Mary, Mt. Olive, will be named a mission of the new parish, María, Reina de las Américas. The chaplaincy for Hispanics of Central Duplin County will be suppressed.

### ► Effective July 10, 2007: The following boundaries are established for the listed missions and parishes in Duplin County, North Carolina

- **St. Mary, Mount Olive**: North Duplin, Waylin, Goshen, and Stacy Britt Townships in Duplin County; Brogden Township in Wayne County.
- **María, Reina de las Américas** (Mary, Queen of the Americas, formerly known as La Posada Guadalupana): to be raised to the rank of parish: Indian Springs Township in Wayne County; Oak Wolfe, Glisson, and Albertson Townships in Duplin County.
- **Santa Teresa, Pink Hill**: to be raised to the rank of mission, attached to María, Reina de las Américas: Pink Hill Township in Lenoir County; Cherry Tree, Sarecta, Potters Hill, and East Duplin Townships in Duplin County.
- **Santa Clara, Magnolia**: (currently a mission of Immaculate Conception, Clinton) — to include the Kenansville station: Natural Wells and Liberty Hall Townships of Duplin County.



Visit [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news) for more news and events.

**La Décima Reunión de las Catequistas Hispanas**, se llevara a cabo el 28 de abril del 2007 a las 9AM en la parroquia de Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh. El Obispo Burbidge celebrará la misa. Para más información, favor de llamar al 919.821.9738.





## An unforgettable encounter in Honduras

▶▶ A doctor in the pitch black of a Honduras night, treating a patient's abscess by the light of an otoscope. Swarms of fireflies in the darkness, then, as clouds clear, swarms of stars. A parish priest in anguish over the suffering of his flock.

These are a few of the images one participant in the diocese's young adult mission trip last March can't forget. For one week, 15 volunteers aged 20-50 brought medicine, construction and education to northwest Honduras. "The medical part of the mission turned out to dominate," recalls Rob Jones. "Our group included two doctors, a dentist, and a medical student. In the morning, we would drive to one of the small mountain towns, set up a pharmacy and a triage area. Often hundreds of people would be waiting for us, and we never finished by sunset. We were always heading home in the dark."

All the participants were impressed by the tremendous need of the people in the area. Fr. Marcos Ayala, pastor of San Juan Pueblo, where the mission team was based, put the situation graphically: "They are being crucified," he said. "I cry for my people."

In addition to offering medical attention, the missionaries built armoire-like clothes closets and cleaned the parish center. "There were piles of moldy books we were throwing out," Jones recalls, "but people begged us not to burn them, since books were so scarce."

"It's called a 'young adult' retreat," said Jones, who is in his 40s, "but most of us were older. Still, that title may be a warning about how strenuous it can be." Jones remembered more than one episode of "complete exhaustion."

"We made the trip during Lent," he said, "and I kept thinking of the Way of the Cross, and the suffering of the poor we encountered. We really went less 'to do for' these people than simply to 'be with' them. In doing that we encountered our own poverty, a sense of helplessness that could only send us to prayer."

Soon Raleigh's Young Adult Ministry will begin planning its 2008 mission trip. For information go to [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/youngadult/missiontrip/](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/youngadult/missiontrip/) on the diocesan Web site.



## Bishop F. Joseph Gossman Award

▶▶ On June 7, five men and women received the Bishop F. Joseph Gossman Award for their extraordinary volunteer contributions to Catholic education in the Diocese. Pictured from left to right: Bishop Michael F. Burbidge; Mr. Don Magoon, St. Mary School, Goldsboro; Mrs. Peggy Taylor, Cathedral School and Cardinal Gibbons High School, Raleigh; Mrs. Diane Soriano, Our Lady of Lourdes School and Cardinal Gibbons High School, Raleigh; Mr. Peter Barys, St. Mark School, Wilmington; Bishop F. Joseph Gossman. Not pictured: Mrs. Wendy Murphy, St. Peter Catholic School, Greenville.



## PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE DECEASED PRIESTS DURING THE UPCOMING MONTHS

### JULY

Msgr. Francis J. Murphy, 1998  
Rev. James J. Noonan, M.S., 1985  
Rev. James A. Mobbs, 1993

Rev. H. Charles Mulholland, 2001  
Most Rev. Leo Haid, O.S.B., 1924  
Rev. Msgr. Peter M. Denges, 1985

### AUGUST

William S. O'Byrne, 1946  
Rev. Joseph J. Toner, O.S.F.S., 1995  
Msgr. Dennis A. Lynch, 1968  
Rev. Thomas A. Williams, 1969  
Rev. Thomas F. Carney, 1969

Rev. William C. Frost, 1983  
Msgr. Felix R. Kelaher, 1998  
Rev. Henry J. Becker, 1992  
Rev. William Kuder, 1960

### SEPTEMBER

Rev. William J. Dillon, 1941  
Msgr. Francis K. O'Brien, 1988  
Rev. Thomas F. Price, 1919  
Rev. Thomas J. Colgan, 1968  
Rev. James H. King, 1978  
Msgr. John A. Brown, 1986

Rev. Patrick Gallagher, 1983  
Msgr. Louis E. Morton, 1986  
Msgr. Hugh Dolan, 1981  
Msgr. Arthur R. Freeman, P.A., V.G., 1962  
Msgr. P.J. Doherty, 1941

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COUNCIL



# *A strong shoulder in a difficult time.*

Dear Supreme Knight:

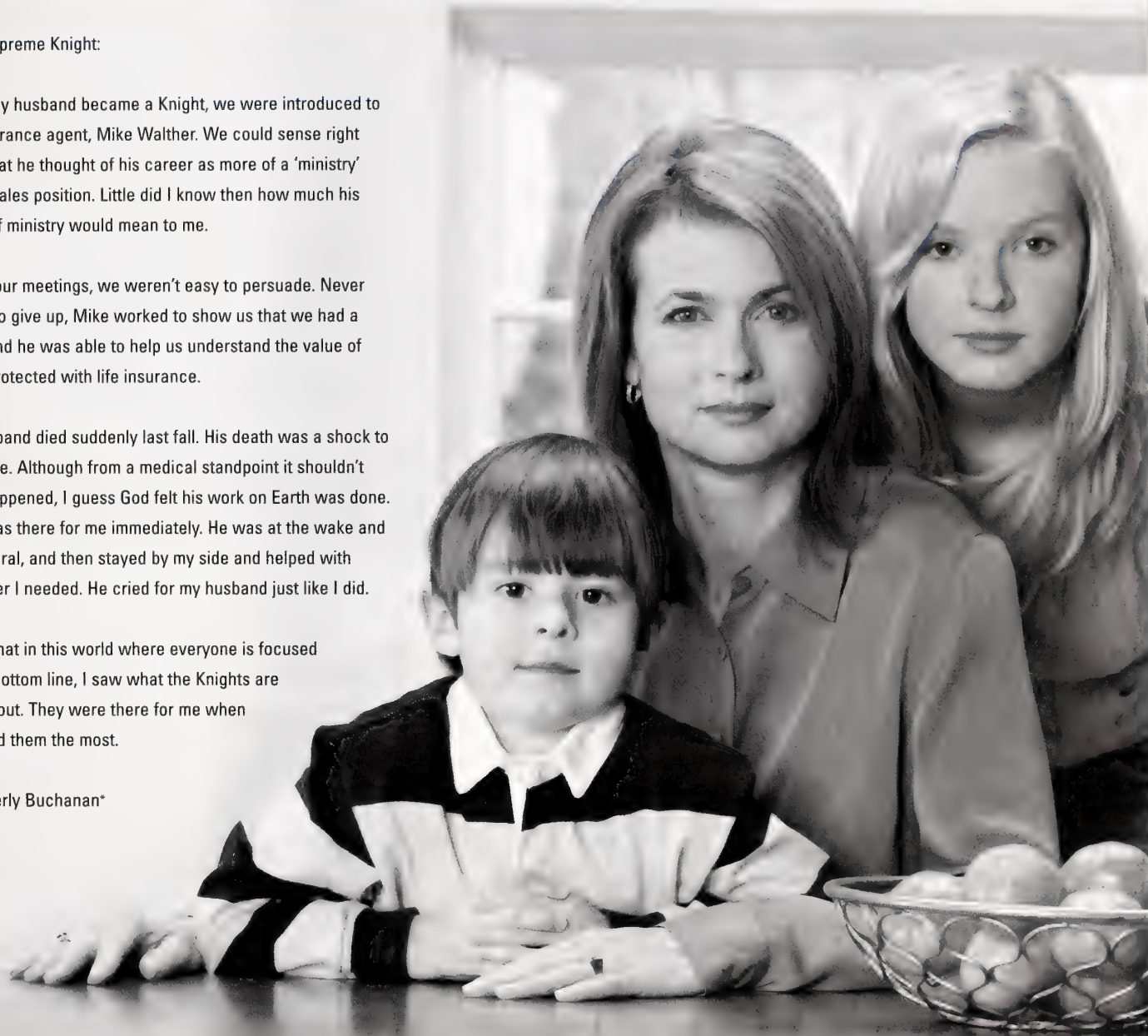
When my husband became a Knight, we were introduced to our insurance agent, Mike Walther. We could sense right away that he thought of his career as more of a 'ministry' than a sales position. Little did I know then how much his sense of ministry would mean to me.

During our meetings, we weren't easy to persuade. Never willing to give up, Mike worked to show us that we had a need, and he was able to help us understand the value of being protected with life insurance.

My husband died suddenly last fall. His death was a shock to everyone. Although from a medical standpoint it shouldn't have happened, I guess God felt his work on Earth was done. Mike was there for me immediately. He was at the wake and the funeral, and then stayed by my side and helped with whatever I needed. He cried for my husband just like I did.

I think that in this world where everyone is focused on the bottom line, I saw what the Knights are truly about. They were there for me when I needed them the most.

— Beverly Buchanan\*



\*Based on an actual letter. Names have been altered to preserve anonymity.

To find your local Knights of Columbus agent, select "Find an Agent" at [KOFc.org](http://KOFc.org), or call 1-800-345-5632.

Knights of Columbus Insurance  
A++ (Superior) A.M. Best;  
AAA (Extremely Strong) Standard & Poor's;  
IMSA Certified.



Knights of Columbus  
**INSURANCE**  
*Making a difference for life.*



# Survivors

## St. Anne, Edenton

young women, to its purported desecration by occupying Union troops during the War, to the neglect that led to the crisis of 1897, through repeated restorations in the 20th century (the most extensive in 1983) and the devastation wrought by Hurricane Isabel in 2003, the church of St. Anne and its Catholic community have established their credentials as survivors.

Today, pastor Fr. Doug Reed describes his parishioners in a way that seems to have

been true throughout St. Anne's long history: "They love their church." And

while the building is a historical treasure, the

parish community is very much up to the minute: spiritually vital and actively involved in charitable outreach and ecumenical cooperation. Fr. Doug speaks with enthusiasm about generations of faith, a "total parish formation" experience, and the Girls and Boys Club, which has been a magnet for local youth. St. Anne participates in summer school and Holy Week services with four other Christian churches in Edenton and lends its parish hall to a Russian Orthodox congregation for weekly prayer services. The parish has expanded its Mass schedule to accommodate a growing Hispanic membership.

Right now a justifiable anticipation can be felt at St. Anne. On July 29, with Bishop Burbidge officiating, the parish, along with the entire diocese, will proudly celebrate the commitment and involvement of generations of its people, without which this grand old church would never have survived. ✠

— Rich Reece

**I**n 1897, the 40-year-old church of St. Ann in Edenton was in bad shape. The roof leaked, the bricks were crumbling and the floor and several windows needed to be replaced. There were only 20 Catholics in Edenton then, and they could not afford the \$600 needed for the repairs. So Father Edward, the Benedictine monk who served the mission church, appealed to Mother Katharine Drexel (now a saint). He told her that when he had preached a mission at St. Ann for 10 days, the services were well attended:

*"The colored people especially seemed greatly interested. On two evenings we could not let all enter who came, for fear the floor of the church would give way... Many called on me and asked me if I would not give another series of lectures on the Cath. Ch. and give it only for the colored people, saying that the church would not accomodate [sic] all that would attend. I promised to do so as soon as I could have the church improved."*

Father Edward's appeal was shrewd. He no doubt knew that Mother Drexel, who had inherited millions from her father, was devoted to the cause



of improving the lot of "colored people." His appeal succeeded, as Mother Drexel sent the necessary funds for the repairs.

This month St. Anne (The spelling was changed around 1970.) celebrates 150 years

of continuous service. It is one of only two surviving pre-Civil War Catholic churches in North Carolina and the only one still celebrating weekend Masses. The survival of the church for a century and a half is little short of amazing, and a testament to the indomitability of its flock. From its construction in 1857, thanks to the fundraising zeal of three

**The survival of the church for a century and a half is little short of amazing, and a testament to the indomitability of its flock.**

### resource

## St. Anne Parish

207 North Broad Road  
Edenton, NC 27932

► Call the parish office at **252.482.2617** for Mass times.



# Catholic Women's Personal Planning Seminar



Delynn Dolan Alexander

Want a  
better  
understanding  
of women's  
unique  
personal  
planning  
issues?

Please join us for a

## *Wine & Cheese Gathering*



Mary Markovich

Wednesday, September 26

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Brier Creek Country Club

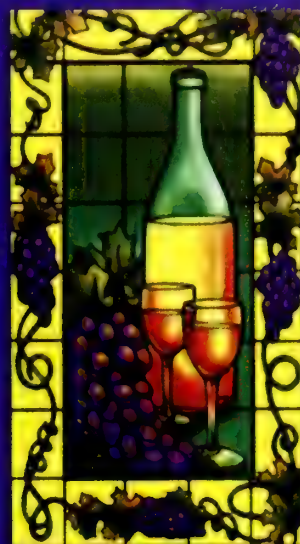
9400 Club Hill Drive,

Raleigh NC 27617

Spend two hours with Delynn Dolan Alexander, a financial planner; Mary Markovich, an attorney; and Debbie Rossi, director of the Office of Stewardship and Development; and learn how to manage your financial resources, how much money you'll need for retirement, how to establish an estate plan, charitable planning techniques, and other strategies for effective personal planning.

This seminar is provided as a service of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh. Many thanks to our volunteers for providing this service to our parishioners.

Reserve your spot by contacting Debbie Rossi by September 19 at (919) 821-9721 or [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org)



## Retired. Not retiring.

For Phil, wellness means relaxing without a care in the world. Having more time to exercise his mind and listen to his spirit gives him a sense of inner harmony. It's the simple joy of living, and Phil knows he'll find it here. Because here, wellness is a way of life.

*Pennybyrn at Maryfield is opening soon and residence selection is becoming limited – act now!*



**PENNYBYRN**

at MARYFIELD

A Retirement Living Community

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

(336) 886-4103 or (866) 627-9343

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

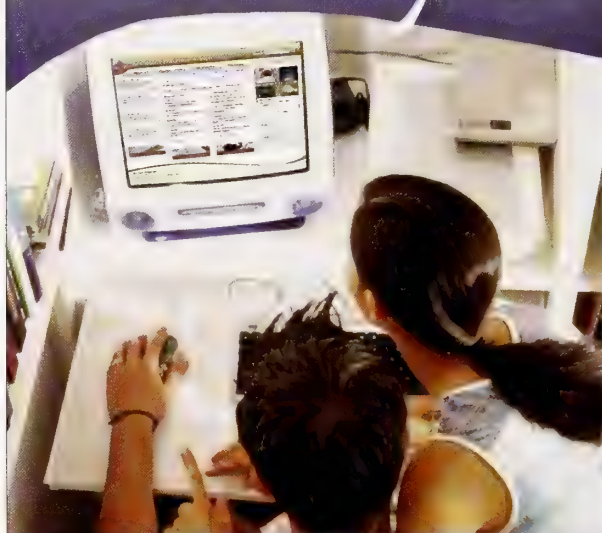
Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor  
Servants of the Mother of God



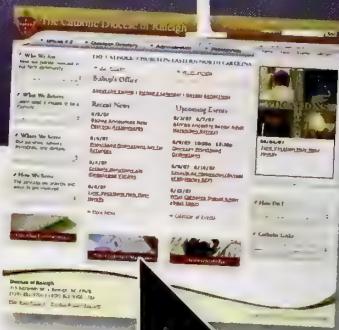
MAG/NCC/Ret2



# your church at your fingertips



- breaking, detailed diocesan news
- complete events calendar
- podcasting
- parish links
- Bishop's weekly gospel reflections – video and print versions



Go Now to

**www.dioceseofraleigh.org**

**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514  
113774 P 13 1145  
SERIALS DEPARTMENT 34040  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
UNC CHAPEL HILL  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NC Catholics

September 2007

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

since you asked...

**I THINK GOD MAY  
BE CALLING ME TO THE  
PRIESTHOOD.**

How can I learn whether this  
is really God's will for me?

Meet four youth ministers  
determined to grow – and  
share – their Catholic faith

## CATHOLIC YOUTH



Ya que usted lo pregunta...

**SIENTO QUE DIOS ME HIZO  
EL LLAMADO AL  
SACERDOCIO.**

¿Cómo se si de verdad es  
la voluntad de Dios?

# ON FIRE!

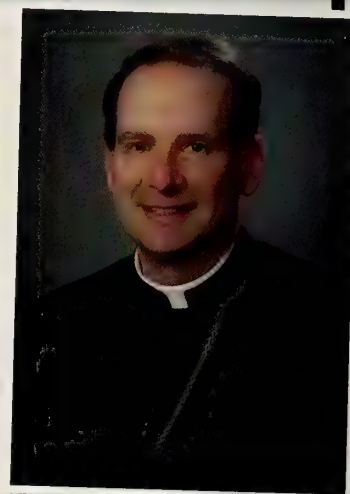
from the bishop

**"PRAISE GOD  
FOR HIS GOODNESS"**





**“P**raise the Lord for His goodness.” These words from the Book of Tobit (13:10) provide the guidance most helpful to us as we reflect this month on the theme “goodness.” Our hearts and minds must focus essentially on the goodness the Lord perpetually bestows upon us. We must also reflect on and give thanks for the countless blessings He gives us each and every day. Most especially, we must be forever grateful for His abiding love and mercy revealed so perfectly in word and sacrament. We must realize that we are not deserving of these gifts. We do not have to earn them or work for them. They are pure gifts from a generous and loving God. Our only response can be that of constant praise and thanksgiving.



In the midst of our challenges, sufferings and crosses, we witness God's goodness in our lives at every moment. He carries us through these trying times by providing us with the grace and strength to endure. Remember the Lord's faithfulness to you throughout the years. Trust in His promise that He will be with you always. Be thankful for the special people He has placed in your life as instruments of His love. A grateful heart must always be reflected in word and deed. Daily, “Praise the Lord for His goodness.”

I write this article near the occasion of the first anniversary of my installation as the Bishop of Raleigh. I have prayerfully reflected on the events and experiences of this past year and my heart is filled with wonder and praise as I celebrate the goodness I have experienced. Above all, I renew my thanks to God for having called me to be the Bishop of this wonderful Diocese that has such a rich history and bright future. I have deep appreciation for the goodness extended to me by my predecessor, Bishop Goss-

man, and thank him for his ongoing support. I have been overwhelmed by the goodness of my brother-priests, both to me and to all the faithful entrusted to their pastoral care. The deacons, consecrated religious, pastoral administrators, seminarians, staff at the Catholic Center, educators, catechists, youth ministers, Catholic Charities

workers and volunteers and all those involved in so many ministries throughout our Diocese reflect the goodness of the Lord through acts of generous and faithful service. I express renewed gratitude to them and all the faithful in the Diocese, including the rich and diverse communities that contribute greatly to our mission.

As followers of the Lord, we are asked to imitate His goodness. In the Gospel of Matthew, we are told how to respond to that call: “Your light must shine before men so that they may see goodness in your acts and give praise to your heavenly Father” (5:16) and “A good man produces good from his store of goodness” (12:35). In the course of our daily living, we see so much darkness in our midst. Yet we do not despair, for we know the light always conquers the darkness. The holiness, integrity and goodness of your life, as well as your countless sacrifices, help to reveal that light! The gifts we have received are not meant to be stored for ourselves. They are given to us to share with one another. Please continue to offer your time, talent and material resources in support of the Diocese, your parish and most especially to the least of our sisters and brothers.

May all of us in the Diocese of Raleigh be filled with profound gratitude for the gift of our faith and abundant blessings, and renew our commitment each and every day to “Praise the Lord for His goodness.”

## “Praise the Lord for His goodness”

**The gifts we have received are not meant to be stored for ourselves. They are given to us to share with one another.**

– Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is Bishop of Raleigh.



# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

## cover story

### Catholic youth on fire!

► Meet four  
youth ministers  
determined to  
grow – and  
share – their  
Catholic faith.

– Rachelle D.  
Garbarine

## 16 el hispano católico

Conozcan a cuatro jóvenes  
determinados a crecer y compartir su fe  
católica. – Rachelle D. Garbarine

## 18 Ya que usted lo pregunta...

Siento que Dios me hizo el llamado  
al sacerdocio. ¿Cómo se si de verdad es la  
voluntad de Dios? – Padre Ned Shlesinger

## 19 Obispo Burbidge

“Alabado sea el Señor por su  
bondad” – Obispo Michael E. Burbidge

### from the bishop

2 “Praise the Lord for His goodness”

– Bishop Michael E. Burbidge

### since you asked ...

6 Dear NCC: I think God may be calling  
me to the priesthood. How can I learn  
whether this is really God's will for  
me?

– Fr. Ned Shlesinger

### from the editor

7 Goodness? What's that? – Rich Reece



### 9 worklife

9 I have no idea what I'm  
supposed to do. How  
do I figure it out?

– Tim Ryan

### voices in our church

11 Goodness Shines in Buffalo

– Msgr. Thomas Hadden

11 La bondad – Padre Fernando Torres

### spiritual fitness

20 What am  
I going to  
do with  
my life?

– Father Bill Ashbaugh



### parish profile

30 The people Jesus spoke about  
Maria, Reina de las Americas,  
Mt. Olive – Rich Reece





Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

September 2007 • Vol. 3 : Issue 7

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Rachelle D. Garbarine  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Father Ned Shlesinger  
Father Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

Denmark Photo and Video (cover)  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vicki Bedard  
DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING

Jillane Job  
SUBSCRIPTIONS/SECRETARY

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Enomhen Odigie  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Betsy Miner  
Derek Melot  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™ Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730



## Bishop ordains two to Transitional Diaconate

►► The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge ordained Michael R. Spurr and Romen Alfred Acero-Molina to the Order of Deacon in a solemn ceremony, June 30, at St. Luke Catholic Church in Raleigh. The two men will be entering their final year of theology, with Deacon Spurr attending Theological College in Washington, D.C. and Deacon Acero attending St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.

Deacon Spurr was born in Illinois, graduated college in 1986 and served in the U.S. Navy for seven years. Deacon Acero was born in Colombia, where after graduation from college he worked as a high school and philosophy teacher in his home country for nine years.



Both men began formation in the Diocese of Raleigh in 2002.

In his homily, Bishop Burbidge spoke about the significance of change and service, two important components on the path the two men are following. Quoting from a recent statement by the Holy Father, the bishop explained that change involves "an interior change of life," moving toward a "deep intimacy with the Lord." Service, the bishop said, involves reaching out to those who are in need, either physically or spiritually.

## New Diocesan administrative structure announced

►► The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge has announced a new administrative structure for diocesan offices, effective July 10. In announcing the re-organization, Bishop Burbidge said the changes are the result of extensive consultation since his installation as bishop on Aug. 4.

To address the needs of a growing and diverse diocese, Bishop Burbidge has created an executive leadership staff to assist him in governance of the diocese. The executive staff is composed of four members: Very Rev. David D. Brockman, STL, JCL, Vicar General; Rev. Msgr. Girard M. Sherba, Ph.D., JCD, Vicar Judicial/Chancellor; Russell C. Elmayan, MBA, MPS, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Operating Officer; and Dr. Michael J. Fedewa, Ed.D., Superintendent of Catholic Formation and Education.

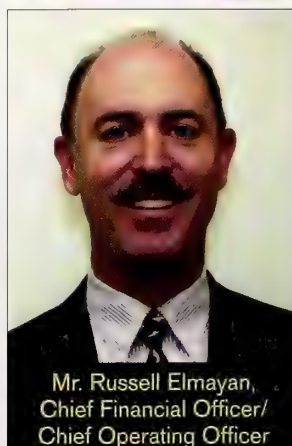
Bishop Burbidge said, "I believe this new structure will best assist me and the entire diocesan staff in effectively responding to the pastoral and spiritual needs of our diocese. I am confident that the administrative support the executive staff will provide will allow me more time for pastoral visits throughout the diocese, which is central to the life and ministry of the bishop."



Very Rev. David Brockman,  
Vicar General



Rev. Msgr. Girard Sherba,  
Chancellor



Mr. Russell Elmayan,  
Chief Financial Officer/  
Chief Operating Officer



Dr. Michael Fedewa,  
Superintendent of Catholic  
Formation and Education





## Father John Parish, 1958-2007

▶▶ Father John G. Parish, Pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Church in Wake Forest, died unexpectedly at his residence on July 23rd. Father Parish was born July 1, 1958, in Waukegan, IL, and raised in Oxnard, CA. He attended St.

John Seminary in Camarillo, CA and was ordained for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in 1984. After serving four years as an associate pastor in California, he requested and received a transfer to the Diocese of Raleigh, and was assigned as parochial vicar of Immaculate Conception Church in Durham. In 1990 he was assigned as parochial vicar of St. Raphael Church, Raleigh, and in 1998 he was appointed administrator of St. Matthew Church in Durham. He was appointed pastor in Wake Forest in 2006.

At his funeral Mass at St. Catherine, celebrated by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, and concelebrated by Bishop F. Joseph Gossman and many priests of the diocese, an overflow congregation heard Father Parish's friend and seminary classmate Msgr. Paul M. Albee eulogize him as one who knew that holiness was linked to happiness. "John was childlike," Msgr. Albee said, "in that he always viewed God's creation and God's people with wonder and awe."


In his remarks, Bishop Burbidge addressed the wonderful example of priesthood set by Father Parish. "Just recently," the bishop said, "our Holy Father addressed these words to priests: 'Live with your feet on the ground and your eyes on heaven.' Father John Parish embraced the essence of that message. His feet were firmly planted on the ground. In true humility, he never placed himself above other people. He saw each day as God's precious gift to be lived joyfully. Wherever he served, he completely immersed himself and tried to understand and to respond to the daily challenges his people faced."

"At the same time, as evidenced by his preaching and teaching, Father John knew that the here and now was not his final goal. His eyes were focused on heaven. He knew the importance of remaining intimate with the Lord most especially through prayer, God's Holy word and the Sacraments so that one day He might live with Him forever."

Father Parish was buried in the cemetery of St. Matthew Church in Durham. He is survived by his father, Harold, his sisters Michelle and Renee, and his nephew and nieces.

## Newest Diocesan youth program to debut

▶▶ FaithTrax, the newest Diocesan Youth Ministry Program, will debut 9:30 a.m. -5 p.m., Oct. 27 at St. Patrick Church in Fayetteville. The day-long catechetical event is for middle school youth (6th-8th grade), their parents, and adults who work with middle schoolers. The day will consist of high-energy large group experiences, grade-specific "trax" helping participants learn, live and love their faith, trax for adults (in English and Spanish) to help deepen and more effectively share their faith, and Mass at the end of the day. The cost is \$25 for the first member of each family, \$20 for each subsequent member of the family. This fee includes: supplies, materials and lunch. Participants should register through their parish by Sept. 24. Those registering after the deadline will be subject to a \$10 late fee. For more information, contact Diocesan Youth Ministry Director Mike Hagarty at 919.821.9770 or Hagarty@raldioc.org.



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# FIRST FRIDAY VOCATIONS HOLY HOUR

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL

FRIDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 7  
OCTOBER 5  
LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD  
AND RELIGIOUS LIFE IN THE DIOCESE OF RALEIGH.

**6:30 P.M. CONFESSIONS,  
HOLY HOUR BEGINS 7 P.M.**



## Sixteen admitted to candidacy for Holy Orders for Permanent Diaconate

▶▶ The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge has admitted to candidacy for holy orders 16 men who are preparing for the permanent diaconate. The rite of admission occurred at the 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Raphael Catholic Church in Raleigh, July 7.

The ceremony is a preparatory rite in which the bishop

publicly declares that the men are candidates for ordination to the diaconate.

The 16 candidates, pictured with Bishop Burbidge and Msgr. Michael Clay, Director of the Office of Deacons, are:

- Michael Alig:  
St. Catherine of Siena, Wake Forest
- Walter Calabrese:  
Annunciation, Havelock
- Michel du Sablon:  
St. Therese, Wilson
- Frederick Fisher: St. Paul, New Bern
- Pius Gabriel: St. Anthony of Padua,  
Southern Pines
- Frank Jones: St. Anne, Edenton
- Patrick McIlmoyle:

- St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh
- Emilio Mejia: St. Stephen, Sanford
- Vincent Mescall: St. Patrick, Fayetteville
- Patrick Pelkey: St. Michael, Cary
- Robert Snyder: St. Raphael, Raleigh
- Ronald Soriano:  
Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh
- Gary Stemple:  
Good Shepherd, Hope Mills
- Alexander Vicent-Martinez:  
St. Andrew, Red Springs
- Bradley Watkins: St. Joseph, Raleigh
- Mark Westrick: St. Stephen, Sanford

▶ Information on the diocesan diaconate program is available at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/vocations/diaconate.aspx](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/vocations/diaconate.aspx).

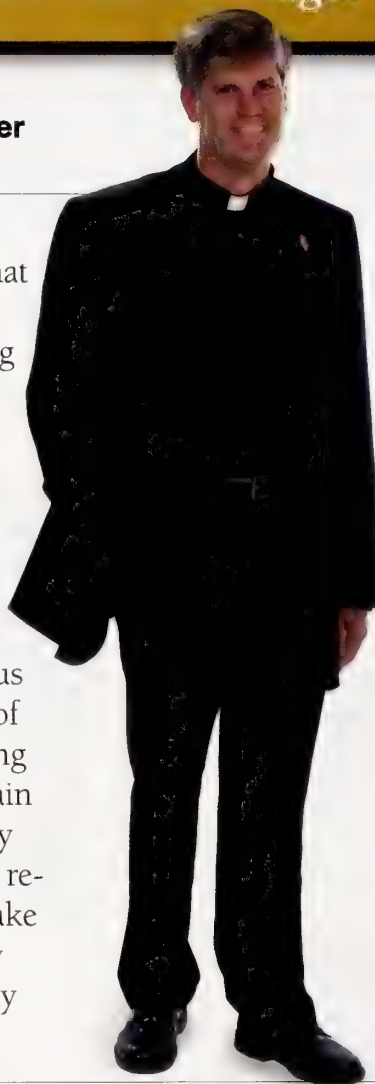


# Dear NCC

This month with Father Ned Shlesinger

**"I think God may be calling me to the priesthood. How can I learn whether this is really God's will for me?"**

**W**hen I was in my teens, I realized that there was more to life than just fitting in and being accepted by others. I had felt drawn to God in prayer and found an interior peace there. However, I also feared the possibility that God might be calling me to be a priest. I was afraid of missing out on certain life experiences; of being a public representative of Jesus Christ; of giving up the possibility of marriage and children; and of risking rejection by my peers. Couldn't I gain eternal life and find peace simply by keeping the commandments? Did I really have to lose my life for Jesus' sake in order to find my life? Did I really have to give Jesus my entire will, my dreams, my all?



It takes faith to hear God's call and to respond to it. Faith is a gift from God and we should ask for it: "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief." Although I considered myself a man of faith because I prayed, I realized that I would need greater faith to say yes to God's will. God does speak directly to each of us, for we are called by name and from our mother's womb. However, God's message may be muffled by fear or muted by preoccupation with the world. We may have to sift through a plethora of emotions and motivations to clarify what God is really saying. Fortunately, God has given us others who can help us to do this. With that in mind, I would propose four steps in learning whether or not the priesthood is God's will for you:

**1 Prayer:** A consistent life of prayer is essential for anyone discerning the will of God. Prayer is more than telling God what we want or feel. It is God's initiative: We pray well when we allow Jesus to be present in our prayer and to express His love and will to us. Jesus speaks to us where we are: He addresses our doubts and fears. If we pray, He will tell us of His unconditional love which casts out all fear and He will instill in

us the gift of faith. In prayer we will learn how to say, "Thy will be done" with real conviction. I would recommend praying in front of our Eucharistic Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and prayerfully receiving His mercy and grace in the sacraments. I would recommend praying with the living Word of God in the Scriptures. Finally, I would suggest drawing close to Mary in prayer: She is the model for prayer and helps us to do whatever her Son tells us.



**2 Questioning & Gathering Data:** God has given us reason, so we should ask questions about what it is to be a priest, deacon, consecrated religious, single lay person or married man or woman. There are many vocational materials available and opportunities to "come and see" the life of a priest or religious. Vocation directors are dedicated to answering questions and helping you gather facts. You may also solicit the opinions of others who know you well and whom you trust to be objective about your gifts. Many have experienced their vocation to a certain way of serving by being attracted to the charism of a saint such as St. Francis of Assisi or St. Ignatius of Loyola. However, being attracted to a charism or reasoning that one seems suited to a lifestyle is not the final word. Ultimately, what is needed is discernment of the movements in one's soul.



**3 Discernment:** Jesus called ordinary men and women, even great sinners, to be priests and religious. Peter once said to Jesus, after he witnessed a miracle catch of fish: "Leave me Lord, for I am a sinful man." Jesus reassured him: "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." Like Peter, we can reason that we are unsuitable or even pray to be excused from service based on fear. But it is essential that we discern from a position of faith rather than reasoning. St. Ignatius of Loyola, a master in the art of discernment, developed his spiritual exercises and rules for discernment specifically to help men and women avoid choosing a state of life based on a disordered motive. I would encourage someone discerning their vocation to consult an experienced spiritual director who is familiar with the *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius* or with one of the great masters of contemplative prayer.

**4 Confirming the signs:** Discernment is ongoing. Recently, I met a man who felt he was being called to be a priest, but wondered if he should go off to college, to have that experience, before entering the seminary. I said that it would be better to pursue the call in an environment – such as a seminary – where he would be formed toward the goal of priesthood, rather than in a place where he might not have any formation experience. The seminary or novitiate or engagement period is meant to help confirm that one's desire is from the Lord. To enter the seminary or to be a postulant in a religious order requires proper motivation, but not absolute clarity. In such an environment, the Church will help you confirm the validity of your vocation.

In my fear concerning my vocation, I wanted God to pass over me and call someone else. Today, after 11 years of being ordained, I thank God for my vocation as a priest; that He not only called me to the priesthood, but that He has also given me the gift to say yes to this call. I couldn't have said yes on my own unless His grace was at work in me and He gave me faith to trust in His personal love for me. May Mary, the Mother of God, the first disciple of her Son, the prayerful daughter of Israel, help you in the discernment of your vocation.

– Father Ned Shlesinger is Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Raleigh. Father Ned can be reached at 919.832.6279 or shlesinger@raldioc.org.

### Send your questions to:

"Since you asked ..."

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Or: reece@raldioc.org

## Goodness? What's that?

**A** while back, I was telling a friend about my plans for this issue. "The theme," I told him, was "goodness." He raised his eyebrows.

"Goodness?" he said. "What's that? You'll need to come up with something a little more concrete than *goodness*."

In a way, he was right. The fruits of the Holy Spirit can seem a bit vague in the abstract. It's when they are incarnated in the lives of faithful people that they take on color and meaning, and most vividly reflect their source. In June we saw generosity manifested in the parishioners of St. Brendan in Shallotte. In July, Ft. Bragg's Military Council of Catholic Women showed us one of the faces of charity. This month, we're featuring four Catholic young people who want to guide other youth in their faith, to be models and teachers of a closer relationship with the Lord.

In Psalm 73, King David's choir leader Asaph talks about the kind of spiritual journey many encounter in their teens, perhaps especially in today's materialistic world. Asaph tried to be a faithful Jew, thinking that God would then reward him with good things. Instead, he saw the wicked people around him enjoying wealth and its attendant pleasures while he failed to prosper. He began to wonder if he was a fool. Gradually, though, as he continued to practice his faith, he realized that his goals had been skewed. At the end of the psalm, he understands an important truth:

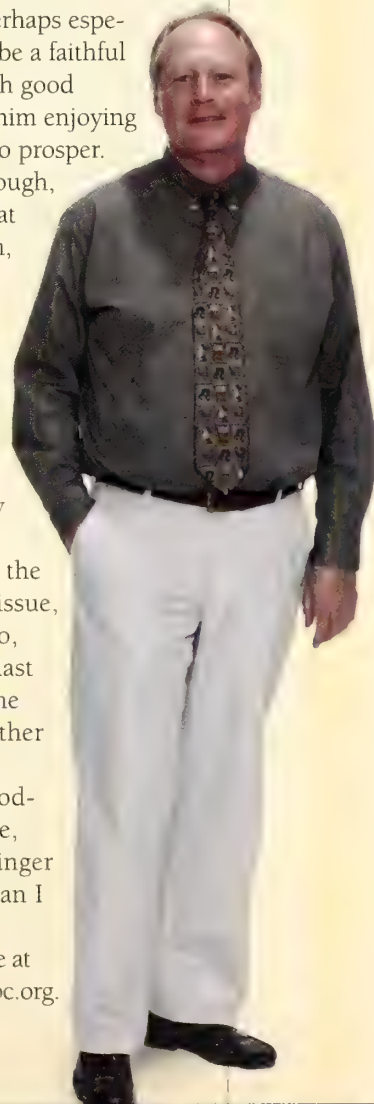
But as for me, *the nearness of God is my good;*  
I have made the Lord God my refuge,  
that I may tell of all Your works.

That understanding of goodness is a hard-won lesson the young people in this month's cover story are committed to sharing with other youth.

Certainly one of the faces of God's goodness is the priesthood. In the weeks of preparation for this issue, two young men, Michael Spurr and Romen Acero, were ordained to the transitional diaconate, the last step before their ordination as priests. In the same time frame, our Diocese lost a beloved priest, Father John Parish. At his funeral, it was clear from the words of those who knew him that the Lord's goodness had shone through his ministry. In this issue, diocesan Director of Vocations Father Ned Shlesinger answers a question from a young reader: "How can I tell if God is calling me to be a priest?"

Thanks as always for your letters. You can reach me at 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.

– Richard Reece is the editor of NC Catholics.





## Bishop Burbidge celebrates with St. Anne Parish community

►► On Sunday, July 29, St. Anne Parish in Edenton celebrated its 150th anniversary. St. Anne boasts the oldest church building in continuous service in North Carolina. (There are two other pre-Civil War churches standing, in New Bern and Mt. Holly, but neither is regularly used for Mass.)

From its construction in 1857, the Edenton structure has survived war, water and hard times — and St. Anne parishioners and helpers like Mother Katharine Drexel (now a saint) have persevered in preserving what is now a historical landmark as well as a place of worship. On Sunday, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Mass in Edenton's Swain Auditorium, then led parishioners in a Eucharistic procession to the old church, where he presided at Benediction.

At the Mass, St. Anne pastor Father Doug Reed expressed pride and admiration at the efforts made by parishioners to mark the anniversary, from decorating the auditorium and writing a history of the parish to providing music for the liturgy and food for the reception.

Bishop Burbidge, referring to Jesus' teaching of the Our Father in the Gospel for the day, said, "It is a prayer that reminds us of essential elements that must be reflected in our lives and in the lives of our parish community. And it is truly relevant on this happy occasion, as we celebrate this anniversary and give thanks to God for His countless blessings and ask for His continued guidance.

"Think of how many people have celebrated and witnessed the sacraments in this church over all these years," the Bishop said to the gathering, "and be filled with joy in knowing that the Church continues just as the Lord promised!"

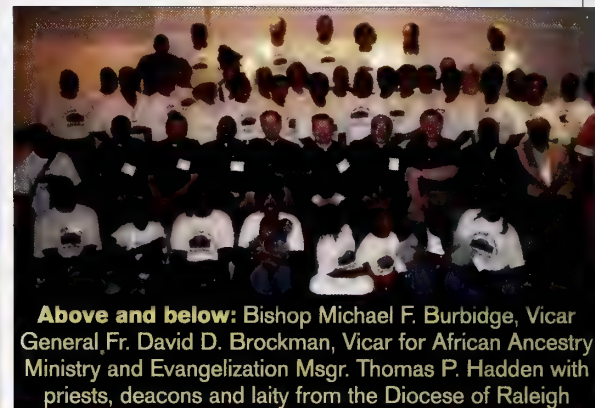
## Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following priest assignments:

### ►► Effective July 10, 2007

- **Reverend John L. Gillespie**, pastor of The Newman Catholic Student Center Parish in Chapel Hill, is appointed parochial vicar at Infant of Prague Parish in Jacksonville, N.C.
- **Reverend Marco Antonio Gonzalez**, newly-ordained, is appointed parochial vicar at St. Bernadette Parish in Fuquay-Varina, N.C.
- **Reverend William G. Quigley**, temporary administrator of The Newman Catholic Student Center Parish in Chapel Hill, is appointed director and campus minister at the Catholic Student Center at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C. Father Quigley will also assist St. Peter Parish in Greenville with hospital ministry and pastoral outreach to the sick.
- **Reverend William Restrepo**, assigned to be parochial vicar at St. Thomas More Parish in Chapel Hill, will be returning home to Colombia to attend to family matters.
- **Reverend Monsignor John A. Wall**, retired priest of the Diocese of Raleigh, is appointed pastor of The Newman Catholic Student Center Parish in Chapel Hill.

### ►► Special Assignments

- **Reverend Scott E. McCue**, pastor of St. Ann Parish in Clayton, N.C., **Reverend Thomas S. Tully**, pastor of Holy Family Parish in Hillsborough, N.C., and **Reverend Ned Shlesinger**, diocesan vocation director, are appointed to Sacramental Ministry to the Hispanic Community at St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill.



**Above and below:** Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, Vicar General Fr. David D. Brockman, Vicar for African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden with priests, deacons and laity from the Diocese of Raleigh



## "Christ is with us" in Buffalo

►► Approximately 2,700 people attended the 10th National Black Catholic Congress, held in Buffalo, New York, July 12-15. The Diocese of Raleigh was well represented with 90 participants, the second largest contingent of the 96 dioceses that were present.

The congress, which is held every five years, serves to establish an agenda for the evangelization of African Americans and works to ensure the freedom and growth of African Americans in as full participants in church and society.

This year's theme was Christ Is With Us: Celebrating the Gifts of the Sacraments. Sessions looked at ways the sacraments are related to the congress's basic concerns: Africa, Catholic education, HIV/AIDS, parish life, social justice, racism, spirituality and youths and young adults. Planners included a special youth track focusing on "Communion and Love," "Called back to Our Confirmation Commitments," and "We Sin. We Reconcile. We Heal."

"I was impressed by the youth who attended," said Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden, Diocesan Vicar for African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization. "They were attentive, happy, at peace and their behavior was exemplary during the Congress and when they were on their own."

The Diocese of Raleigh delegation included Bishop Michael F. Burbidge and Father David D. Brockman, newly installed Vicar General. "It was a great privilege to participate in the National Black Catholic Congress," Bishop Burbidge said. "I was extremely proud of the large representation from the Diocese of Raleigh. I was edified by their holiness, zeal and enthusiasm. It is my hope and prayer that all those who participated in the congress were spiritually enriched and returned home with a renewed love for Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament."



## Catechists recognized at annual gathering



►► Approximately 150 men and women attended the annual gathering of Hispanic catechetical leaders Saturday, July 29. The session, held at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Raleigh, marked the 10th anniversary of the Hispanic catechetical program in the Diocese which began under Msgr. Padre Roberto Keenan.

Eight individuals were recognized for their involvement in the program from its inception. They were Maria Ramirez and Maximo Carrera from St. Gabriel Church in Greenville, Yolanda Romero from St. Eugene Church in Wendell, Lourdes Llanos from St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill, Josep Colomer from Immaculate Conception Church in Durham, Carmen Grenz from Holy Spirit Church in Kinston, Minerva Jeffries and Irma Olmos from Blessed Sacrament Church in Burlington.

The day-long event included a presentation by Alejandro Aguilera-Titus, Interim Executive Director of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Department for Hispanic Affairs. The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Mass for the Hispanic catechists and presented the eight original catechists with a rosary in recognition of their service to their parish communities.

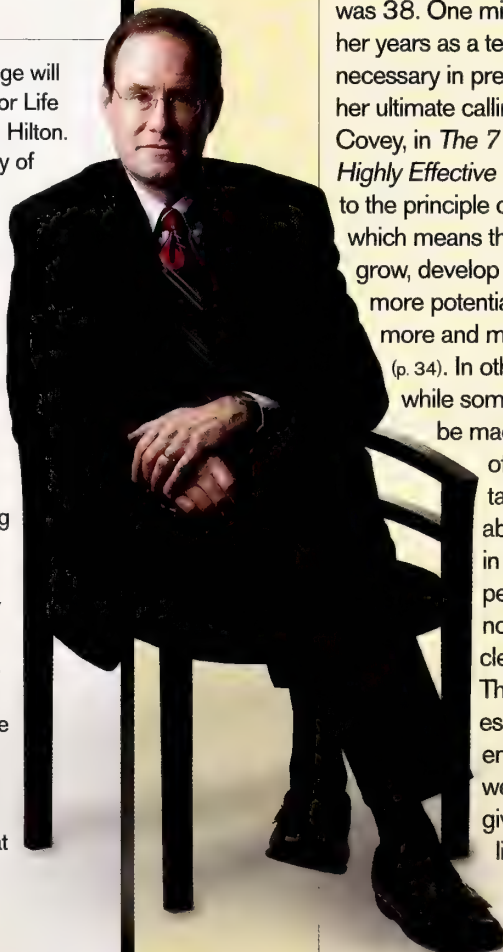
## A gala to celebrate life

►► The Most Reverend Bishop Michael Burbidge will be the guest speaker at the 5th Annual Benefit for Life Gala on Thursday, Oct. 25, at the North Raleigh Hilton. The occasion will also mark the 35th anniversary of Birthchoice, a Catholic pro-life pregnancy counseling service that offers practical alternatives for women facing a crisis pregnancy. Funds raised at the gala will support Birthchoice, as well as the Gabriel Project, which offers support to clients of Birthchoice and other agencies by mentoring to moms before and after their children are born, and Project Rachel, a healing ministry for women, men and families who have participated in abortion.

Over the years, donor generosity has helped:

- Establish Birthchoice as a medical clinic offering on-site limited ultrasound to the women who visit for help and guidance. Statistics show that up to 80 percent of women who see their baby in utero decide to have their babies.
- Assist pregnant mothers with rent and education.
- Underwrite Family Honor's sixth-grade life values program, Changes & Challenges. (See *NCCatholics*, May 2007.)
- Sponsor participants to attend Project Rachel's post-abortion healing retreat.

► For more information, contact Deb Oronzio at 919.518.0373.



**Brandon graduated from college four years ago and is struggling with his career direction.**



**Brandon says:** When I graduated from high school, I had no idea what to do, so I went into a liberal arts program in college. I switched majors a couple of times and finished with a math degree. I was employed as a statistician right after graduation, but didn't really enjoy it, so I found a job in the actuarial department of an insurance company. I'm still not happy, but I have no idea what I should be doing. I've asked God many times what I'm supposed to do, but I'm not hearing any answers. I don't feel I'm where I belong. Instead, I just feel lost.

**The expert says:** Mother Teresa taught high school for many years, and at one point was the principal of the school. She didn't hear her call to begin ministry in Calcutta until she was 36, and didn't receive permission to make the change until she was 38. One might say that her years as a teacher were necessary in preparation for her ultimate calling. Stephen Covey, in *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, refers to the principle of potential, which means that we "can grow, develop and release more potential, develop more and more talents" (p. 34). In other words, while some people may be made aware of their true talents and abilities earlier in life, for many people it may not become clear for years. Thus, it is necessary for us to embrace where we stand at any given point in life, because even though

we may feel restless, we need to trust God's plan and believe that we are being groomed, that our potential is being generated.

**Prayer is the key to uncovering our capability and allowing it to grow:**

- **Pray unceasingly.** God will give you what you need because of your persistence (Lk 11:5-8), and it may take time to align our lives with God's call.
- **Pray for wisdom** to distinguish between God's call and the motives of this world.
- **Pray for patience** to allow God to work in your life.
- **Pray for the grace and joy** to appreciate where you are at the moment, and how you are growing.

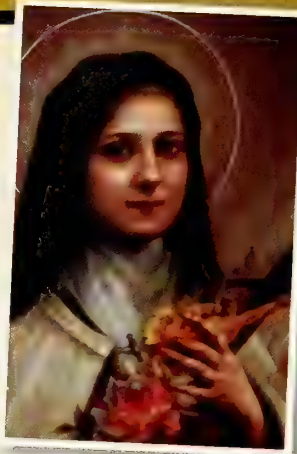
Brandon can find peace in the realization that he isn't lost; he just may not be able to see in through the fog. Therefore, he needs to trust God's light to guide him, and rest in that understanding.

— Tim Ryan



## teen saint's life was no bed of roses

**St. Thérèse of Lisieux**  
**Birthplace: Alençon, France**  
**Feast Day: Oct. 1**  
**Patroness of Missionaries**



**Claim to Fame:** The much-loved youngest daughter of a religious French family, Marie Françoise Thérèse Martin was born in 1873. Even as a child, precocious Thérèse was aware of her spiritual vocation. At age 14, she asked her widowed father to let her enter the cloistered order of Carmelites. Although her father agreed, the Carmelite superiors and the bishop insisted she wait. So, on a pilgrimage to the Vatican in 1887, Thérèse pleaded directly to Pope Leo XIII, begging him to allow her to enter the convent at age 15. Although impressed with her fervor, the pope advised patience, saying, "You shall enter if it be God's will." Nearly a year and many prayers later, she joined the order. She was named Sister Thérèse of the Infant Jesus; later "and of the Holy Face" was added.

**What made her a saint?** Sister Thérèse spent her days in penitence, meditation and work. In her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, she described herself as "the little flower of Jesus" in God's garden of souls. As she reached her 20s, Thérèse desperately wanted to join the Carmelites in French Indo-China. Tragically, incurable tuberculosis dashed any chance for her to serve as a missionary. Instead, she counseled two missionaries, writing them often to offer spiritual encouragement.

**How she died:** As she lay dying in agonizing and constant pain at the age of 24, Thérèse could see the roses she loved blooming outside.

**Best quote:** Confident of God's love, she promised, "After my death, I will let fall a shower of roses. I will spend my heaven doing good upon earth." Through the years, some of Thérèse's petitioners have said that they smell or see roses when their petitions are answered.

**Prayer:** *O Thérèse of the Child Jesus, please pick for me a rose from the heavenly gardens and send it to me as a message of love. O Little Flower of Jesus, ask God to grant the favors I now place with confidence in your hands, St. Thérèse, help me to always believe as you did in God's great love for me, so that I might imitate your Little Way each day. Amen.* —Jan Rynearson

**Santa Teresa de Lisieux**  
**Lugar de nacimiento: Alençon, Francia**  
**Día de la santa: 1 de octubre**  
**Patrona de los misioneros**

►► **Lo que la hizo famosa:** La hija más joven y muy querida de una familia religiosa francesa, Marie Françoise Therese Martin, nació en el año 1873. Cuando Teresa era niña, precozmente ya estaba consciente de su vocación espiritual. A los 14 años le pidió a su padre, que era viudo, que le permitiera ingresar a la orden de claustro de las Carmelitas. Aunque su padre aceptó, los superiores de las Carmelitas y el obispo insistieron en que ella esperara. Así que en el año 1887, en una peregrinación al Vaticano, Teresa le suplicó directamente al Papa León XIII que le permitiera entrar al convento a la edad de 15 años. Aunque él quedó impresionado con el fervor de la joven, el Papa le aconsejó que tuviera paciencia, diciéndole, "Entrarás si es la voluntad de Dios." Después de casi un año y de muchas oraciones, Teresa ingresó a la orden. La llamaron Hermana Teresa del Niño Jesús; y más tarde se le agregó "y del Rostro Santo."

►► **Lo que la hizo santa:** La Hermana Teresa pasó sus días haciendo penitencia, meditando y trabajando. En su autobiografía, *Historia de un Alma*, ella se describe a sí misma como "la pequeña flor de Jesús" en el jardín de almas de Dios. En su segunda década de vida, Teresa deseaba fervientemente unirse a las Carmelitas en la Indo-China francesa. Trágicamente una tuberculosis incurable le truncó la posibilidad de servir como misionera. En su lugar, ella asesoró a dos misioneros, escribiéndoles para ofrecerles aliento espiritual.

►► **Forma en la que murió:** A la edad de 24 años, mientras yacía postrada agonizando sufriendo un dolor constante, Teresa podía ver las rosas que ella amaba y que estaban floreciendo afuera.

►► **Su mejor cita:** Confiada en el amor de Dios, ella prometió que "Luego de mi muerte voy a hacer que caiga una lluvia rosas. Voy a pasarme en el cielo haciendo el bien sobre la tierra." A través de los años, algunos de los peticionantes de Teresa han dicho que ven rosas o sienten su aroma cuando sus plegarias son respondidas.

►► **Oración:** *Oh Teresa, Niña de Jesús, escoge para mí una rosa del jardín celestial y mándamela como un mensaje de amor. Oh, Pequeña Flor de Jesús, ruégale a Dios que me conceda los favores que con confianza pongo ahora en tus manos. Santa Teresa, ayúdame a creer siempre, como tú lo hiciste, en el gran amor que Dios tiene por mí, para que yo pueda imitar tu Caminito todos los días. Amén.*



## Goodness shines in Buffalo

I have just returned from the National Black Catholic Congress which is held every five years. This year we were in Buffalo. Over 3,000 people gathered for this congress, not just black people, but also white and Hispanic. The delegation from the Diocese of Raleigh was one of the largest delegations. Some came as families.

The Raleigh delegation included Bishop Michael Burbidge; Vicar General Father David Brockman; myself as Vicar for African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization; Father Pius Wekesa, the Adjunct Vicar; Father Marcos Leon, Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Whiteville; and Deacons Robert Price of Wallace and Webster James of Goldsboro.

Present from the Catholic Center staff were Sister Joan Jurski, Mrs. Martha Bailey, Ms. Kathleen Walsh, Mrs. Teresa Aldahondo, Dr. Terry Jackson, Ms. Bea Callery, Ms. Jan Valero and Mrs. Wilena McPhatter.

This was a gathering of "good people" who, in this congress, focused on something dear to us as Catholics, the sacraments of our holy Church, particularly the sacraments of Eucharist, penance, matrimony and holy orders.

There was an adoration chapel in the conference center. People signed up for the hours of adoration. The sacrament of confession was also celebrated during the congress at stated times. We prayed the rosary together.

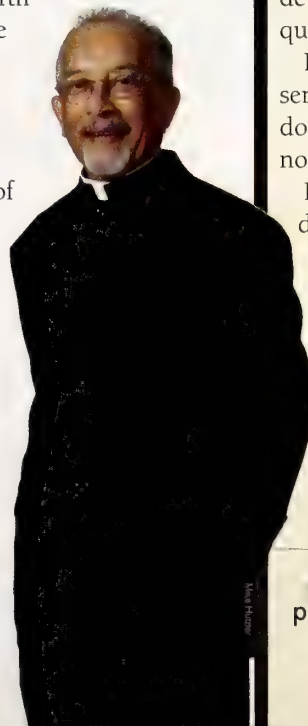
Holy Mass was celebrated daily with all that the Church recommends – song, processions and various ministries being exercised. There were 12 bishops and 50 priests who concelebrated, including Bishop Burbidge and all the clerics mentioned above from the Diocese of Raleigh. Deacon Price was selected to serve as Deacon at the Friday Mass.

In an important way, goodness shone forth from this congress. I say this because those who center their faith life in the Eucharist have to be good.

I was also struck by the goodness I observed in the hundreds of youth present. The congress had a special track of presentations for the youth that stressed the sacramental life and the moral values of the Church.

These youth enjoyed themselves. They were happy, quiet, respectful and involved. In no way did they mirror the stereotype that we often have about youth. This shows good parenting, good training on the parish level and involvement in the Church. An old priest's heart is filled with joy!

– Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden



## La bondad

La bondad es una virtud que ayuda a mejorar la vida de las personas y que se comienza a adquirir desde la tierna espera de una madre que brinda a su hijo lo necesario para que se forme, se desarrolle y se alimente en el amor.

La bondad se reviste del padre y la madre, con cuidados, con las palabras y con el tiempo que ayudan al hijo a desarrollarse y a sentirse bienvenido en el seno de una familia.

La bondad se hace maestra dando lecciones en las diferentes actitudes, pero incrustando en la vida de cada persona lo necesario para responder a los que lo solicitan por un favor, una ayuda o una amistad.

La bondad se hace alimento en la vida diaria de las personas cuando se recibe afecto, cuando se aprende a brindar una sonrisa y cuando se aprende a compartir la vida.

La bondad se hace visible cuando se aprende a renunciar al egoísmo, la envidia o a la indiferencia y se tiene en cuenta al prójimo como a un hermano.

La bondad se hace oración cuando se alimenta de la fuente verdadera y encuentra en Dios la fuente del amor, del servicio y de la entrega, haciendo que el cristiano sea una persona virtuosa que busca la perfección y la salvación de su vida.

La bondad se hace mirada de Dios, cuando se despierta la sensibilidad ante la necesidad de los otros, comprendiendo su dolor y su angustia, y responde con obras que ayudan al otro a no perder su dignidad y su responsabilidad.

La bondad se hace camino en el recorrer, pasando por la cruz de Cristo Redentor para llegar a la dicha de sentarnos a su mesa como sus amigos y discípulos que comprendemos su entrega de amor y que la practicamos como el mejor anuncio de su reinado en el mundo.

La bondad se hace vida y se vive en obras, pero nace de Dios y que nos conduce para que vivamos como sus hijos y hagamos visible su presencia en medio del mundo que tanto lo necesita.

– Padre Fernando Torres

Este artículo y poema escrito por el Padre Fernando los pueden encontrar en: [www.nccatholics.org](http://www.nccatholics.org)





By Rachelle D. Garbarine  
Pictures by Denmark  
Photo & Video

# CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE

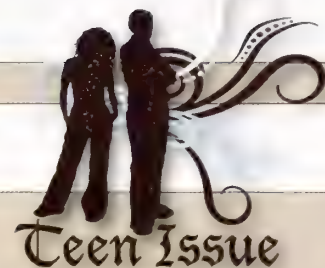




# YOUTH PRE!

Meet four youth ministers  
determined to grow – and  
share – their Catholic faith

cover story



On a sun-soaked afternoon, inside one of the small offices of the Diocesan Catholic Center in Raleigh, a quartet of college-age young people serving as youth ministers this summer – as they have in the past – sit quietly in chairs pushed hard against the walls. Except for the faint sounds of distant traffic, all is still.

But once these young people begin talking, their passion for youth ministry comes through loud and clear. It is reflected in their wide smiles and in the lively cadence of their voices, which warm the heart like a comfortable, old sweater.

Their boundless energy is infectious, making them ideal ambassadors to get their younger colleagues excited about and closer to their Catholic faith. Matt Aujero, Kym DeLaRosa, Erin Bitker and Meredith Crovitz join a small but growing number of young Catholic adults committing to and reshaping the face of youth ministry.

**Left to right:  
Erin Bitker,  
Kym DeLaRosa,  
Meredith Crovitz  
and Matt Aujero.**

Michael J. Hagarty, director of the Diocese of Raleigh's Office of Youth Ministry, notes that in the past two years, dozens of youths and young adults have approached him about becoming youth ministers, up from one or two inquiries annually when he started his job nearly eight years ago. There are, he notes, myriad ways for young adults to participate in the more than 30 programs, serving some 3,000 middle and high school youths, offered through his office; as well as in the programs the 90 parishes in the diocese sponsor.

"All slots we have ever needed (for youth ministers) have been filled at every event where we have asked for their help," Mike continues. Being a youth minister, he explains, "gives them an opportunity to grow in their faith and share it at the same time."







**"Some parishes discourage their youth because adults do not invite them to take on roles in serving the church community."**

**K**ym, Erin, Matt and Meredith, ranging in age from 19 to 21, share a fervent love of their faith and a strong desire to make an impact in today's Church. "I just love having an impact on people, influencing them the way I have been influenced and bringing them to their faith," says Matt, a member of Holy Infant parish in Durham. One after the other Kym, a St. Francis of Assisi parishioner; Meredith, of St. Andrew Church in Apex; and Erin, who is from Minnesota and attends St. John's Abbey there, echo that same sentiment as if they are reciting a mantra.

"Some parishes," explains Erin, who spent the summer in Raleigh working at St. Francis of Assisi, "discourage their youth because adults do not invite them to take on roles in serving the church community." To help change that, she says she "wants to bring kids into the church community and keep them here because they are having fun, yet doing something important and meaningful."

Meredith adds that when youths are not invited to get involved they should take the lead and "do everything they can." Her hope, she says, is that "I

can guide them on how to do that."

All four share similar histories, from going to public elementary and high schools - where they participated in athletics, school government, and music, among other activities - to attending faith formation classes. Those classes, they agree, introduced them to some of their role models.

"I would like to mirror their enthusiasm," Matt says of the youth ministers he had while in high school. One guitar-toting male minister, he adds, "also made the role look cool for young men."

Yet, there are elements of that



experience this foursome hopes to improve. There are some programs and parishes that are not open to empowering youth, to enabling them to promote religious life,

says Kym, who speaks of Church personalities in the same way her contemporaries talk about rock stars; and who counts Mother Teresa as another of her role models. "I want," she stresses, "to provide a space where discussion of faith can happen ... where it can be experienced."

Meredith, too, wants to offer youth "a more hands-on experience," starting with asking them what they want to know and how they want to get involved. "The more they are involved, the more they will get out of it," she notes.

Still, the four are as different as they are similar. Kym is the high school student body president with a cheerleader's bubbly personality and an activist's determination. Erin is the teen athlete turned religious explorer and teacher. Meredith is the petite dynamo with a musical spirit and an immense drive and Matt is the writer-realist who is as impassioned about the written word as he is about spreading God's word.

For each, involvement in youth ministry came at a different point during their elementary to high school years, despite what they describe as harmless taunting from their peers. Terms like "holy rollers" and "Jesus freaks" - along with the underlying peer pressure - simply rolled off their backs.

"I don't care what other people think of me - at least I try not to," Meredith explains. "I got involved because it's something I wanted to do and it's where I am the happiest."

Though Matt says he "felt like the only

practicing Catholic in high school," he never felt like "I needed to explain myself to anyone."

Kym adds, "When you try to

**"I want to provide a space where discussion of faith can happen ... where it can be experienced."**



incorporate faith into your daily life you are breaking the mold." Her closest friends, those she could call at 3 a.m. for a heart-to-heart chat, she says, are those she met on church retreats. "What's cooler than that?" she asks.

These four young adults have accumulated a wealth of youth ministry experience, gleaned from their involvement in, among other activities, parish or diocesan youth boards, Confirmation retreats, youth conventions and vacation Bible schools. Some even initiated new youth programs. It doesn't end there. All four say they will - in one capacity or another - continue to work in youth ministry after college.

Meredith, who is majoring in community services and religious studies at East Carolina University, sees youth ministry as a career, despite the allure of other, more lucrative jobs. The same is true for Kym, who like Erin, is majoring in Theology with a concentration in pastoral ministry at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University in Minnesota. "To see a high school student ask questions about the Catholic Tradition is just so awesome," says Kym. "It means that they care."

Matt, a business management major at Catholic University in Washington, DC, says he will volunteer in youth ministry after college. So will Erin, who was raised on her family's sprawling farm in rural Minnesota and is toying with the idea of entering the teaching profession.

Mike Hagarty notes that, when young adults ask him about youth ministry as a career, he encourages them "to follow their passions academically, interview people in the field, supplement their formal education with the youth ministry certificate (a two-year professional-level national training program offered in the Diocese of Raleigh), and to pray ceaselessly."



Mike Hagarty,  
Diocesan Youth Ministry Director

While that is the future, Erin, Meredith, Matt, and Kym are currently deep into their youth ministry experience, both at home and at college. Meredith had what she describes as "an eye-opening experience" this summer as a youth ministry intern at the Raleigh Diocese, and this fall is continuing her campus ministry work at college. Meanwhile, Kym and Erin created a summer pilot program at St. Francis of Assisi for rising seventh- through ninth-grade girls that, Kym says, "encouraged healthy self-esteem and relationships between friends,



"I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God that you have... For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord... but bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God."

2 Timothy 1:6-8.

family and especially God!" Back at St. John's University, both women are involved in providing Confirmation retreats for local parishes.

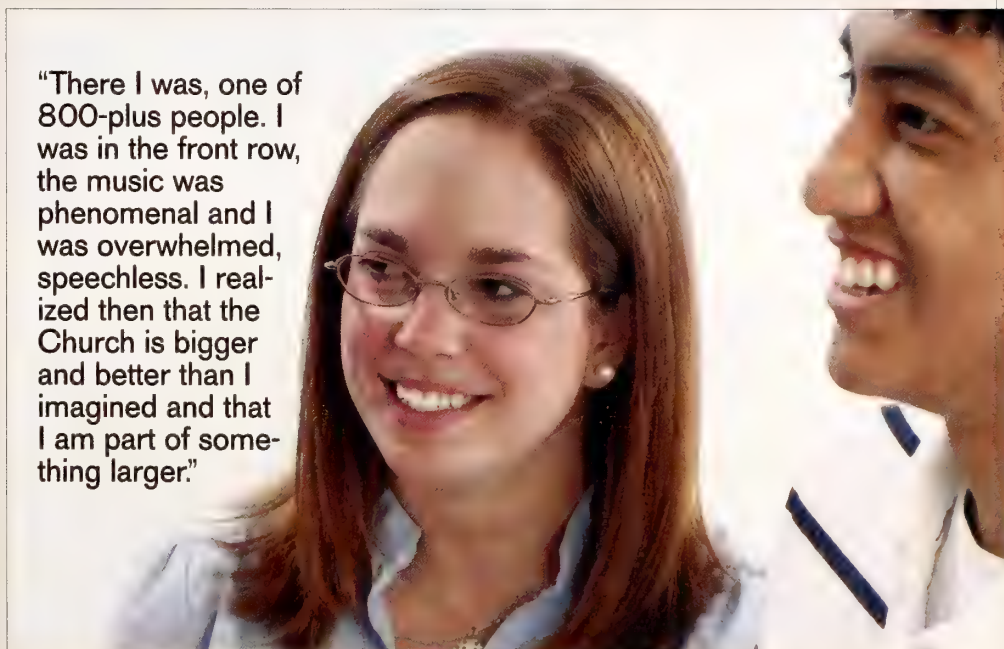
So what would they say is an example of youth ministry at its best? Without hesitation, each of the four point to the gathering of hundreds of youths at either the National Catholic Youth Conference or the Diocesan Catholic Youth Convention.

Kym calls such events "a kind of mountain-top experience that makes me aspire to empower youth in the Catholic faith."

As Matt describes his first time at a youth convention the appeal is clear. "There I was, one of 800-plus people. I was in the front row, the music was phenomenal and I was overwhelmed, speechless," he says. "I realized then that the Church is bigger and better than I imagined and that I am part of something larger. It's all about seeing examples, about your actions influencing others, and about your life being a message."

**"When you try to incorporate faith into your daily life you are breaking the mold. What's cooler than that?"**

**"There I was, one of 800-plus people. I was in the front row, the music was phenomenal and I was overwhelmed, speechless. I realized then that the Church is bigger and better than I imagined and that I am part of something larger."**





**E**n una tarde soleada, dentro de una pequeña oficina del Centro Diocesano Católico en Raleigh, cuatro jóvenes de edad universitaria sirven como ministros de la pastoral juvenil este verano. A excepción del sutil ruido del lejano tráfico, todo permanece tranquilo. Sin embargo, una vez que comienzan a hablar, su pasión por la pastoral juvenil se hace sentir; poniéndose de manifiesto a través de sus sonrisas y la vivida cadencia de sus voces que calientan el corazón como un agradable suéter viejo. Su inagotable energía es contagiante, convirtiéndolos en los embajadores idóneos para atraer a sus jóvenes colegas a estar más cerca de la fe católica. Matt Ajuero, Kym DeLaRosa, Erin Bitker y Meredith Crovitz conforman un pequeño, pero creciente número de jóvenes católicos comprometidos a reformar la faceta de la pastoral juvenil.



## ¡Juventud católica indetenible!

Conozcan a cuatro jóvenes determinados a crecer y compartir su fe católica

El director de la pastoral juvenil, Michael J. Hagarty, señala que en los últimos dos años, docenas de jóvenes y jóvenes adultos han estado interesados en la pastoral, entre una a dos peticiones al año desde que Hagarty comenzó su trabajo hace 8 años. Además comenta, que existe una gran variedad de formas para participar, más de 30 programas para ayudar a 3.000 jóvenes en edad escolar, a través de su oficina o en otros 90 programas de parroquias patrocinados por la diócesis. "Todos los puestos para el ministerio juvenil han

sido ocupados cada vez que necesitamos ayuda" comenta Mike. Además, "les da la oportunidad de crecer en la fe y compartirla al mismo tiempo."

Kym, Erin, Matt and Meredith, cuyas edades comprenden entre 19 y 21 años, comparten un amor ferviente por su fe y un fuerte deseo de dejar huella en la iglesia de hoy en día.

"Me encanta dejar huella en las personas, influenciarlos de la misma manera en que yo lo fui y acercarlos a su fe" comenta Matt, miembro de la parroquia Holy Infant en Durham. Uno tras otro, Kym, en la parroquia de San Francisco de Asís, Meredith en la Iglesia St. Andrew en Apex, y Erin proveniente de Minesota, quien asiste a St. John's Abbey, manifestaron el mismo sentimiento como si estuvieran recitando un Mantra.

"Algunas parroquias" explica Erin, quien paso el verano en Raleigh trabajando en St.

Francis of Assisi dice: "desaniman a los

jóvenes porque los adultos no los invitan a formar parte de su comunidad"...

Para cambiar eso,

"quisiera traer a los niños a la comunidad de la iglesia y mantenerlos aquí porque así se divierten mientras hacen algo significativo"

Meredith agrega que cuando no invitan a los jóvenes a involucrarse con la parroquia, ellos deben tomar la iniciativa y "hacer todo lo que puedan." Ella espera que "los pueda guiar a lograr ese objetivo"

Los cuatro comparten historias similares, desde asistir a la escuela pública donde participaron activamente en atletismo, liderazgo, música, etc, hasta sus clases de formación. Ellos están de acuerdo que esas clases les presentaron a sus modelos a seguir. "Me gustaría reflejar ese mismo entusiasmo," haciendo referencia a los ministros de la pastoral juvenil que Matt tuvo durante la secundaria. Un joven de la pastoral portando una

**"Cuando tratas de incorporar la fe en tu vida diaria, te sales de lo común. ¿Qué puede ser mejor?"**



guitarra "le dio una apariencia más fresca" agregó.

Todavía, estos cuatro jóvenes tienen la esperanza de mejorar algunos elementos de aquella experiencia. Algunas parroquias y programas aún no están comprometidos con los jóvenes, dándoles la oportunidad de promover la vida religiosa, comenta Kym, quien se refiere a las personalidades de la Iglesia de la misma manera como lo haría una persona de su edad de una estrella de Rock, y quien además cuenta a la Madre Teresa como su modelo a seguir.

"Quisiera aportar un espacio para la discusión de la fe, y no solo un lugar para enseñarla sinode; un lugar donde sea posible vivirla" Meredith al igual que Kym, quisiera ofrecerle a los jóvenes "una experiencia más palpable" comenzando por averiguar los intereses de cada quien y como pueden ayudar. Señala que "mientras más estén involucrados, pueden sacar más provecho de dicha experiencia"

Sin embargo, los cuatro son tan diferentes pero a la vez comparten similitudes. Kym, con una personalidad de porrista y determinación, es la presidenta del cuerpo estudiantil; Erin es el atleta, religioso y maestro, Meredith es la pequeña dinamo con un espíritu musical y una inmensa determinación, y Matt es el escritor realista, cuya gran pasión por las escrituras es tan grande como la de predicar la palabra de Dios.

Durante su vida estudiantil, el proceso de incorporación a la pastoral juvenil fue distinto para cada uno de ellos, a pesar de que no le prestan importancia cada vez que anteterminos como "fanáticos religiosos" y menos a la constante presión por parte de sus compañeros de clase.

"No me importa lo que los demás piensen de mí, por lo

**"Todos los puestos para el ministerio juvenil han sido ocupados cada vez que necesitamos ayuda. Les da la oportunidad de crecer en la fe y compartirla al mismo tiempo."**



menos lo intento" explica Meredith. "Me involucre con esta causa porque es lo que yo quiero hacer y es donde me siento feliz" Aunque Matt dice "era casi el único Católico practicante en su secundaria", siempre sintió que no tenía que darle explicaciones a nadie. Kym agrega, "Cuando tratas de incorporar la fe en tu vida diaria, te sales de lo común" Sus amigos mas íntimos, esos que llaman a las 3 de la mañana para desahogarse, son aquellos que ella conoce en los retiros religiosos. "¿Qué puede ser mejor?" comenta.

Estos cuatro jóvenes han acumulado gran experiencia en la pastoral juvenil, puesto que forman parte activa en diversas actividades de la parroquia o en la junta diocesana: retiros de confirmación, convenciones juveniles y campamentos vacacionales de estudios bíblicos, incluso, algunos hasta iniciaron nuevos programas juveniles. Pero, esto no termina allí, todos afirmaron que continuaran trabajando en el ministerio incluso después de la universidad.

Meredith, quien estudia servicios comunitarios y estudios religiosos en East Carolina University, ve el ministerio juvenil como una carrera profesional, a diferencia de otros trabajos más lucrativos. Lo mismos es cierto para Kym y Erin, quienes estudian Teología y Matt, estudiante administración de empresas en la Universidad Católica de Washington DC, afirmaron que continuarán al servicio voluntario en la pastoral juvenil después de la Universidad. Erin, quien se crió en una hacienda en un área rural de Minnesota, está contemplando la idea de enseñar.

Mike Hagarty comenta, cuando los jóvenes adultos le preguntan acerca del ministerio juvenil como profesión, los fomenta a "seguir su pasión académica, entrevistar a personas que trabajan

en el área, complementar su educación con el certificado de la pastoral juvenil (un entrenamiento de dos años a nivel profesional en la Diócesis de Raleigh) y orar sin descanso."

Erin, Meredith, Matt y Kym están actualmente activos en su experiencia dentro del ministerio juvenil, en el hogar y en la Universidad. Meredith experimentó lo que ella cataloga como "una experiencia reveladora" este verano en la Diócesis de Raleigh y ahora continúa con su trabajo en la Universidad. Al mismo tiempo, Kym y Erin crearon un programa piloto en St Francis of Assisi para niñas de séptimo a noveno grado para "ayudarlas a obtener una autoestima saludable, mejorar las relaciones con sus familiares, amigos y en especial con Dios" En la Universidad de St. John, ambas imparten retiros en las parroquias locales.

Entonces, ¿cuál sería el mejor ejemplo de la pastoral juvenil? Sin duda alguna, todos respondieron de la misma manera, la congregación de cientos de jóvenes en la Conferencia Nacional Católica o en la Convención Diocesana de Jóvenes Católicos. Kym se refiere a esos eventos como "una especie de montaña que me inspira y me da fuerzas para promover la fe católica entre los jóvenes." Matt describe su primera vez en una convención de jóvenes "Ahí estaba, entre más de ochocientas personas, en la primera fila, la música fue sensacional y me sentí abrumado, sin habla" entonces "me di cuenta en aquel entonces que la Iglesia es mejor y más grande de lo que yo pensaba. Me contenta saber que formo parte de algo formidable. Se trata de dar ejemplos, de las acciones que influyen a los demás y hacer de tu vida un modelo a seguir."



## "Siento que Dios me hizo el llamado al sacerdocio. ¿Cómo se si de verdad es la voluntad de Dios?"

**D**urante mi adolescencia, me di cuenta que la vida era mucho más que el solo hecho de ser aceptado por los demás. De pronto, la oración me llevó más cerca de Dios y me llenó de paz interior. Sin embargo, me dio temor pensar que Dios posiblemente me estaba llamando a ser sacerdote; tenía miedo de perder muchas experiencias en la vida, de renunciar al matrimonio y de tener hijos, además de sentir el rechazo por parte de mis compañeros. ¿Será posible obtener vida eterna y paz con tan solo practicar los mandamientos? ¿Será que tengo que abandonar mi vida por Jesús para encontrar mi propia vida? ¿Será que en realidad tengo que entregarle a Jesús mi voluntad, mis sueños, mi todo?

La fe es necesaria para escuchar y responder al llamado, es un regalo de Dios y siempre debemos orar para recibirlo: "Señor, yo creo en ti" A pesar de que me considero un hombre de fe porque estoy constantemente en oración, me di cuenta que necesito de una gran fe para responder a la voluntad del Señor. Él habla directamente con nosotros, nos llama por nombre desde el vientre de nuestra madre, sin embargo, el mensaje del Señor puede ser silenciado por el miedo o ensordecido por la preocupación de este mundo. Tal vez, tenemos que escudriñar una plétora de emociones y motivación

para aclarar el mensaje de Dios. Afortunadamente, Dios nos envió a otras personas que nos pueden ayudar con esta misión. De esta manera, sugiero cuatro pasos a seguir para determinar si el Señor realmente les está haciendo el llamado al sacerdocio:

nal que nos libera de temores, inculcándonos el regalo de la fe. Por medio de la oración aprendemos a decir con convicción "hágase su voluntad," por esta razón, recomiendo que oren frente a nuestro Señor Eucarístico en el Sagrado Sacramento para recibir su gracia y misericordia en los sacramentos. Recomiendo que oren con la Palabra viva del Señor en las Escrituras. Finalmente, recomiendo que se acerquen a María en oración, porque ella es nuestro modelo y nos ayuda a realizar la voluntad de Su hijo.

### 2 Cuestionamiento y recolección de datos:

Dios nos dio una razón, por eso debemos hacer preguntas sobre el significado de ser sacerdote, diácono, religioso consagrado, laico u hombre y mujer de hogar. Hay mucho material vocacional disponible y oportunidades para observar la vida del sacerdote o religioso. Los directores de vocación están dedicados a responder todas

las preguntas y ayudarlos a recolectar información. Además, pueden pedir la opinión de conocidos a quienes les puedan confiar objetivamente acerca de sus regalos. Muchos han experimentado su vocación de cierta

forma atraídos por el carisma de santos como San Francisco de Asís o San Ignacio de Loyola. Sin embargo, no basta sentirse atraídos por cierta carisma o razonamiento de la que pensamos pueda ser el estilo de vida mas adecuado, lo que necesitamos discernir son los impulsos de nuestra alma.

### 3 Discernimiento:

Jesús realizó un llamado a los hombres y mujeres, incluso a los más pecadores a ser sacerdotes y religiosos. El apóstol San Pedro una vez le dijo a Jesús, después de presenciar una pesca milagrosa: "— ¡Apártate de mí, Señor; soy un pecador! Pero Jesús le respondió —No temas; desde ahora serás pescador de hombres — Al igual que el apóstol San Pedro,

nuestro razonamiento nos indica que no somos los más adecuados para atender al llamado, ni siquiera de orar por un servicio basado en el temor, pero es esencial que establezcamos la diferencia entre la fe y el razonamiento. San Ignacio de Loyola, un maestro en el arte del discernimiento, desarrolló unas reglas y ejercicios espirituales para ayudar a evitar que hombres y mujeres escojan una vida basada en la confusión. Para los que están en el proceso de discernir su vocación, les recomiendo que consulten con un director espiritual con experiencia en los ejercicios espirituales de San Ignacio o con algún maestro de la oración contemplativa.

### 4 Confirmar las señales: El discernimiento es continuo.

Recientemente, conocí a una persona que pensó haber escuchado el llamado al sacerdocio, pero se preguntó si sería mejor vivir la experiencia universitaria primero antes de entrar al seminario. Le respondí que es mucho mejor que atendiera al llamado en un seminario donde su objetivo primordial está enfocado en el sacerdocio, en vez de estar en un lugar que no le ofrezca experiencia en la formación. El seminario, noviciado o periodo de compromiso está diseñado para ayudar en el proceso de confirmación si el deseo de cada quien proviene del Señor. Entrar en un seminario o ser postulado en un orden religioso requiere de motivación propia, pero no de absoluta claridad. Dentro de este ambiente, la Iglesia lo ayudará a confirmar la validez de su vocación.

Con respecto a mi temor por la vocación, quise que Dios pasara sobre mí y le hiciera el llamado a otra persona. Hoy en día, 11 años después de mi ordenación, le doy Gracias al Señor por mi vocación de sacerdote; que no solo me llamó al sacerdocio, sino que además me dio el regalo de aceptar el llamado. No pude aceptar este regalo por mi propia cuenta, la gracia de Dios estuvo presente conmigo siempre y Él me dio la fe y la confianza de Su amor por mí.

Que la Madre María de Dios, el primer discípulo de su Hijo y la hija piadosa de Israel, los ayude en el discernimiento de vocación.

— El Padre Ned Shlesinger es Director de Vocación de la Diócesis de Raleigh.



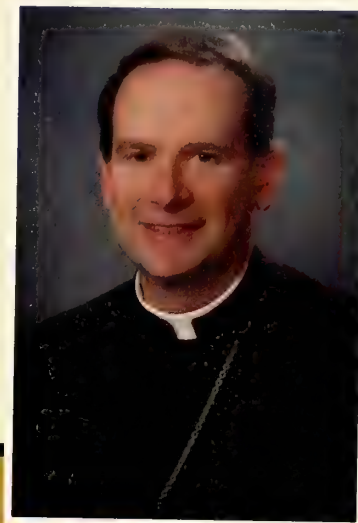
Ya que usted lo pregunta...  
Este mes con el Padre Ned Shlesinger

### 1 Oración:

Una vida bajo constante oración es esencial para discernir la voluntad del Señor. La oración es más que decirle a Dios lo que queremos o sentimos, es la decisión del Señor: Oramos mejor cuando permitimos que Jesús esté presente en nuestra oración y presente su amor y voluntad hacia nosotros. Jesús nos habla donde quiera que estemos, localizando nuestras dudas y miedos. Si oramos, Él nos brinda su amor incondicio-



“**A**labado sea el Señor por Su bondad” Estas palabras del Libro de Tobías (13:10) nos sirven de referencia en el tema de este mes sobre la “bondad.” Nuestro corazón y pensamiento deben enfocarse esencialmente en la bondad que el Señor continuamente nos concede. Además, debemos manifestar y dar las gracias por la infinidad de bendiciones que nos concede todos los días, estar eternamente agradecidos por Su amor incondicional y misericordia revelada en la Palabra y el Sacramento. Tomemos en cuenta que no somos merecedores de estos regalos, puesto que no debemos ganarlos ni trabajar por ellos; son regalos puros de un Dios generoso y amoroso. Tan solo podemos alabarlo y agradecerlo constantemente.



## “Alabado sea el Señor por Su bondad”

En medio de nuestros desafíos, sufrimientos y cruces, somos testigos de la bondad de Dios en todo momento de nuestras vidas. Él nos guía durante momentos difíciles a través de la gracia y la fortaleza para soportar cualquier situación; tengan siempre presente la fidelidad del Señor hacia ustedes cada año. Confíen en Su promesa de que Él estará con ustedes siempre.

Agradézcandle por cada persona especial que ha cruzado en sus vidas como instrumentos de Su amor. Un corazón agradecido siempre debe reflejar la palabra y el compromiso. Alaben al Señor a diario por su bondad hacia nosotros.

Escribo este artículo en vísperas del primer aniversario de mi instalación como Obispo de Raleigh. Gracias a mis experiencias vividas, mi corazón se siente lleno de alegría y alabanza a medida que celebro

**Les pido que por favor continúen aportando su tiempo, talento y recursos materiales para ayudar a la Diócesis, a las parroquias y especialmente, a nuestros hermanos y hermanas**

la bondad que he experimentado a lo largo de mi gestión en la Diócesis. Sobre todo, renuevo mi agradecimiento a Dios por haberme nombrado Obispo en esta maravillosa Diócesis llena de historia y con un brillante porvenir. También, siento una profunda apreciación por la bondad recibida por mi predecesor, el Obispo Gossman y mucho agradecimiento por su continuo apoyo. La bondad de mis hermanos sacerdotes es abrumadora, tanto hacia mí como para todos los fieles de las parroquias. Los diáconos, los religiosos consagrados,

los administradores pastorales, seminaristas, personal del Centro Católico, educadores, catequistas, pastoral juvenil, el personal y voluntarios de catholic charities, más todos aquellos involucrados en tantos ministerios por medio de la Diócesis, reflejan la bondad del Señor en cada acto de generosidad y servicio de lealtad. Expreso mi gratitud hacia ellos al igual que a todos los fieles de la Diócesis, incluyendo la gran diversidad de comunidades que

contribuyen enormemente con nuestra misión.

Como seguidores de nuestro Señor, debemos imitar Su bondad con plenitud. El evangelio según San Mateo nos ilustra como debemos responder a dicho llamado: “Hagan brillar su luz delante de todos, para que ellos puedan ver las buenas obras de ustedes y alaben al Padre que está en el cielo” (5:16) y “El que es bueno, de la bondad que

atesora en el corazón saca el bien, pero el que es malo, de su maldad saca el mal” (12:35). En nuestro día a día, divisamos tanta oscuridad ante nosotros, sin embargo, no perdemos la esperanza porque sabemos que la luz siempre vence a la oscuridad. ¡Lo sagrado, la integridad y la bondad en la vida de todos nosotros, al igual que los incontables sacrificios ayudan a revelar esa luz! Los regalos que hemos recibido debemos compartirlos, y no quedarnos con ellos. Les pido que por favor continúen aportando su tiempo, talento y recursos materiales para ayudar a la Diócesis, a las parroquias y especialmente, a nuestros hermanos y hermanas.

Que todos nosotros en la Diócesis de Raleigh estemos llenos de una profunda gratitud por los regalos de nuestra fe y abundantes bendiciones, al igual que renovar nuestro compromiso cada día alabando al Señor por Su bondad.

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge,  
Obispo de Raleigh





# What am I going to do **with my life?**

Let love guide you

the wind, blows where it wills.

I recently had moved to Michigan to continue my graduate studies. I did not know anyone, but in a short time, many good people of

**M**ost of us have probably asked, "What am I going to do with my life today?" God gives each of us a beautiful gift in being able to offer ourselves as a sincere gift back to God and to others. But often, we struggle with the specifics. How exactly am I to give of myself to others and God?

I have struggled with the question more than once. When I was in college, I first thought I was going to be a professor and was working full-steam on a Ph.D. in biochemistry. At the same time, I met a wonderful young lady and marriage came to mind. She helped me bring God into the discussion and then things got very interesting. Before this point, I may have asked, "What am I going to do with my life?" but it was without God as a reference point. I was not thinking about the big picture and definitely did not even consider asking God for some input on the matter! I had drifted from my

Catholic faith, which is a problem if you want to make a good decision that will affect your entire life. How is one going to be able to make a good decision about life if we do not know the author of life? I was soon to find this out, and also to find that God has a mysterious way of moving us exactly where we need to be so he can get through to us. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit, like

Christian faith were right in front of me! Christian missionaries who visited the dorms asked me to study the Bible with them; a local director of religious education befriended me; a group of Catholics invited me to their family prayer group meetings; and I was encouraged and drawn to attend Mass at the student parish. While the vocation question was still in my mind, it was as if God were moving me into a better place where I could actually hear him!

At this time, I never really talked much to anyone about the possibility of a priestly vocation. I was too chicken. In fact, when I would see priests, I would tend to run the other way. But the more I prayed, the more I felt an inner prompting



to consider the priesthood. I kept praying, "Show me the way, Lord. Show me the way to love and to give my life to You." And God answered that prayer in incredible ways.

One Sunday, I was in the parking lot of the church after Mass and heard the yells of the parish's retired pastor. Father Mac was suffering from Alzheimer's and was not able to celebrate Mass unless he had some help. At first, I hoped he was calling for someone else, but he kept saying, "Young man ... young man ... come here ... come here!" I looked around and there was no other young man in the area – I could not avoid this one!

Father Mac blurted out, "Young man, have you ever considered being a priest?" It was like my worst nightmare and best dream were

who spoke about vocations to the priesthood. I felt like the disciples on the road to Emmaus whose hearts burned within them.

Then, an incredible thing happened after Communion. Father Mac got up and began to ask everyone to pray for a young man he had met the other day who was a biochemist. He asked us to pray for that young man to become a priest. I was slowly trying to sink underneath the pew to hide. Too late! He spotted me. He pointed in my direction as said, "And there he is ... stand up young man, stand up!" There was no escape. I felt like I was set up. Alzheimer's? How did he remember so much?

I was numb with joy. After Mass, Father Mac asked, "I didn't push you into anything, did I?"

I told him, "No, Father. Sometimes donkeys need a good kick in the rear end to get going!" When everyone had left,

I knelt down and prayed deeply in thanksgiving. A few months later, I entered the seminary, and Father Mac went home to be with Jesus.

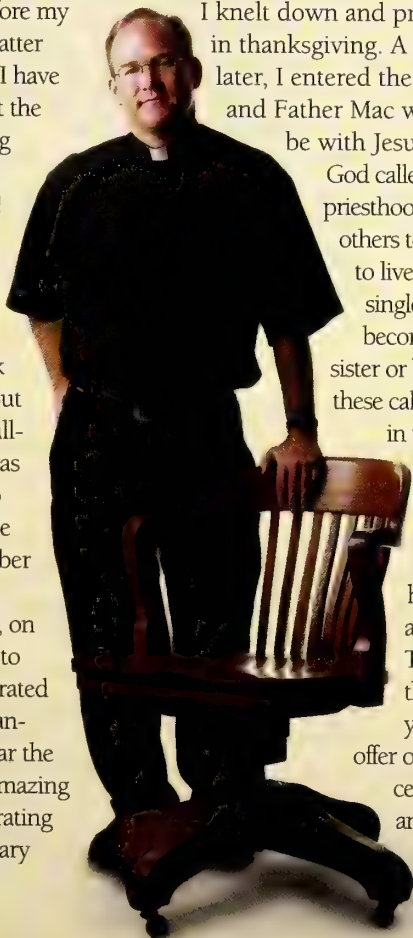
God called me to the priesthood, but he calls others to marriage or to live a consecrated single life or to become a religious sister or brother. All these calls are similar in that, in every case, God asks the person to give up his or her life in love as Jesus did. The important thing is to say yes to God and offer oneself as a sincere gift to God and others. That is love.

## How is one going to be able to make a good decision about life if we do not know the author of life?

happening right before my eyes. I said, "As a matter of fact, Father Mac, I have been thinking about the priesthood for a long time." Dear God, I had said it out loud!

Father Mac said with a smile, "Well, young man, come and see me. We will talk more about that!" But I kept putting off calling Father Mac. I was very busy in the lab and I didn't think he would even remember the conversation.

A few weeks later, on my birthday, I went to daily Mass concelebrated by Father Mac and another priest. I sat near the last pew. It was an amazing Mass. The concelebrating priest was a missionary



## 4 steps to figure out your life a walk with St. Peter

**I**n this exercise, we are going to walk with St. Peter and consider how Jesus helped Peter know how to respond to the question, "What am I going to do with my life?" To begin, prayerfully read John, Chapter 21 a few times. As you read it, ask yourself how Peter might have felt at different times during the reading.

### 1 Before meeting Jesus: How did he feel being out fishing all night without a catch?

What would such a night remind him of? (See Luke 5:1-10) What was Peter comfortable doing when he met Jesus? Read Luke 5:10, or Matthew 16:18-19. What in my life am I comfortable doing and what has the Lord asked of me that takes me out of my comfort zone?

### 2 When he realized Jesus was there: What are some of the

things that Jesus did that helped engage and heal memories within Peter? (The catch of fish, the nets that almost were torn, the charcoal fire, asking for a couple of fish, the three questions). How has the Lord healed memories in your life that were painful?

**3 The question: "Peter, do you love me more than these?"** What are the "these"? Some have said "the other disciples" – do you love me more than "the other disciples"? But I think a much simpler look at things in light of all that has transpired makes better sense. "Peter, do you love me more than these fish?" Peter, you have given your life to catching these fish. You stayed out all night (again) trying to catch them. Do you love me more than these? What in our lives do we love and dedicate our time to? What makes us secure? What is our bread and butter, our livelihood? Do we love Jesus more than these?

**4 The call: "Feed my lambs ... tend my sheep ... feed my sheep."** Three times Peter denied Jesus. Three times, Jesus allowed Peter to affirm the truth of his love for Jesus. Three times Jesus made his choice of Peter clear and his mission clear: "Feed my sheep." End this exercise by considering the specific ways God has called you to tend the lambs and feed the sheep in your life. Who are God's lambs that you have been entrusted with? What do they need and how can you offer care to them? – Father Bill Ashbaugh





## Ugandan Cardinal visits Diocese

▶▶ Emmanuel Cardinal Wamala, Archbishop-Emeritus of Kampala, Uganda, concluded a four-day visit to the Diocese of Raleigh on Saturday, June 30, attending the ordination of Michael Spurr and Romen Acero to the transitional diaconate at St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Raleigh.

The Cardinal had arrived on Wednesday, and spent that evening at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Cary with a small group of parishioners who visited his archdiocese five years ago and have created a non-profit organization to support essential projects in the rural areas of the archdiocese. The organization has become national in scope through its website, [www.share-the-blessings.org](http://www.share-the-blessings.org).

The following day, Cardinal Wamala celebrated Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Pinehurst. Three years ago, Sacred Heart Church began an outreach to Kampala and has helped sponsor the construction of three wells to provide clean water to poor communities; in addition, the church has provided support for educational opportunities.

On Friday evening, the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, the Cardinal presided at Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. Commenting on how the Catholic Church in Uganda has grown from its difficult beginnings in the late 1800s, the Cardinal said when he was baptized there were only two African priests in his country. "Today, the Catholic Church in Uganda has about 30 bishops, only three are non-African," the Cardinal said.

He also spoke about the important role played by families in support of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Cardinal Wamala repeated that theme on Saturday in his comments at the conclusion of the Mass for the transitional deacons. "Vocations are from God," he said, "but we work out the details."

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge thanked Cardinal Wamala for his presence in the Diocese and the leadership he has provided to his country and to Africa. The Bishop presented a financial gift to the Cardinal to be used in the education of youth in the Archdiocese of Kampala.



## Mt. Olive College establishes Catholic Scholarship

▶▶ Bill Fritz, assistant vice president for finance at Mount Olive College (MOC) and a member of Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Mount Olive, saw a need at MOC and decided to do something about it. "Although Mount Olive College was founded by Baptists," Fritz said, "there has always been a Catholic presence here. It's an affordable school with Christian values, and I wanted a way to acknowledge the Catholic students here as well as make the school known to Catholics in the region." So beginning with his own monthly contribution, Fritz established the Saint Thomas Aquinas Endowed Scholarship Fund for Students at MOC.

Fritz named the scholarship in honor of one of the great teachers of the medieval Catholic Church and a towering example of Catholicism's integrated understanding of faith and reason. Once the endowed fund reaches its stated goal of \$10,000, the interest will be awarded to selected students who are fully initiated, practicing Catholics, as affirmed by their pastors. Priority will be given to Catholic students of the Diocese of Raleigh.

Friends of the Diocese are invited to make a gift to the Endowed Scholarship Fund. For more information about endowments, or to make a contribution, contact Jeff Daughtry, Director of Planned Giving, at 919-658-2502. Any individual or church who would like to contribute can send their tax-deductible gift to: Mount Olive College, 634 Henderson Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365.

Founded in 1951 by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, MOC is a private institution rooted in the liberal arts tradition, offering associate and bachelor's degree programs accessible in a variety of modes and times to accommodate the needs of a diverse student population. With locations in six eastern North Carolina communities and more than 4,100 students, MOC is the eighth largest private college in the state.



Betty Rogosich,  
Director of Birthchoice.

## A Blessing at Birthchoice

On Thursday, Aug. 2, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge blessed the office and a new ultrasound machine at Birthchoice in Raleigh. The \$30,000 machine and the cost of setting up an exam room and hiring a nurse were funded through donations from past Benefit for Life guests and a grant from Focus on the Family.

Birthchoice, this year celebrating its 35th anniversary, is a Catholic pro-life pregnancy counseling service that offers free pregnancy tests and practical alternatives for women facing a crisis pregnancy. "This year's conversion to a medical clinic offering limited ultrasound is a significant milestone," said Betty Rogosich, Birthchoice Director. A donation from the North Carolina Knights of Columbus also allowed Birthchoice to purchase a flat-screen monitor so the mother can have a clear view of the baby in utero. "This early determination," Rogosich said, "encourages the mother to obtain early pre-natal care. Statistics show that up to 85 percent of women who see their babies in utero decide to continue the pregnancy."

Bishop Burbidge expressed his admiration and appreciation for the work of Birthchoice and of all in the Diocese who act to protect life. "We have a lot of work to do," the Bishop said, "but I feel a great sense of joy and encouragement being here among such dedicated defenders of life."



## Bishop marks Anniversary, blesses pilgrims

►► At a Mass at St. Raphael Church on Aug. 4 marking his first anniversary as Bishop of Raleigh, Most Rev. Michael

F. Burbidge offered praise and thanks to God that "through His mysterious and divine plan, I am Bishop of this great Diocese." In his homily, he reflected on the way in which, whatever one's vocation, God calls, comforts and challenges.

Present at the Mass were participants in the nine-day Bike for Life Pilgrimage from Raleigh to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. The Bishop blessed the bikers outside the church as they began their journey. The pilgrims will travel two to three hours per day, as an example to "encourage the faithful to live out their vocational call in the light of the 'Gospel of Life' and to do acts of love in their marriages, families, parishes, communities, and in all life situations." (More information on the pilgrimage is available at <http://bikeforlifepilgrimage.com/home.html>.)



**Bike for Life pilgrims Sabrena Goldman and Fr. Phil Tighe, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Rocky Mount, NC, talk about the journey to come.**

## Brother Gregory Plow, T.O.R., Professes Solemn Vows

►► At a profession ceremony held at St. Francis University, Loretto, PA, on July 20, Brother Gregory Plow, a member of the Franciscan Friars, Third Order Regular, Province of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, professed solemn vows. Brother Gregory is the son of Eric and Jean Plow. He attended St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill, NC. After graduating from Chapel Hill High School he continued his education at UNC Wilmington before entering the Franciscan community in 2001. Following Solemn Profession, Brother Gregory will finish his Masters of Divinity degree at Washington Theological Union in Washington, DC, and is preparing for ordination to the transitional diaconate.



## St. Mark students sweep essay contest

►► Three students from St. Mark's School in Wilmington took the top three prizes in the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians 2006-2007 Irish Writing Contest, grades six through eight. Each year the national organization solicits essays from youth on Irish history topics and awards cash prizes to the winners. St. Mark's winners were David Alderson, first place; Tess Colby, second place; and Emily Poole, third place. In addition, Michael Hogan, Cardinal Gibbons High School, took first place in the high school division.

# Coming Soon... Going Fast!



The exciting Pennybyrn at Maryfield is 86% reserved—

that means only a few more can take advantage of pre-opening pricing. Will you be one of them?

This architecturally stunning new community is scheduled to open in Winter of 2007. An active, modern lifestyle that offers you gorgeous private residences, superior amenities and a professional staff to provide unparalleled services...it's the retirement lifestyle that you've been waiting for!

*Don't let this opportunity pass you by. Call (336) 821-4050 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 today...prices will never be this low again!*



**PENNYBYRN**

at MARYFIELD

A Retirement Living Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

NP/NCC/Urg0807







Bishop Burbidge and Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden pose with some of the recognition recipients.

## AAME Recognizes Achievers

**T**he Office of African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization (AAME) recognized leadership and scholarship in the African Ancestry community at their annual Recognition Banquet on Aug. 4 at the Raleigh Sheraton Capital Center Hotel. Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge was the Keynote Speaker for the evening, which saw awards presented to adults and youth in both the Raleigh and Charlotte dioceses for their activities in ministry and evangelization.

The ceremony began with the presentation of plaques to the widows of Charles Blackmon of Holy Cross Church in Durham and Jimmie Penny of St. Raphael Church in Raleigh, two men who had given selflessly and effectively over many years of their time, talents and treasure. Other recipients included:

- **AAMEN/AOW Youth Recognition Awards:** Trevor Calhoun and Gabrielle Mortis, Winston-Salem; Christine Ada Chapman and Ebony Hagans, Fayetteville; Shamiso Chikandura, Durham; and Nichelle Edwards, Raleigh.
- **Rora B. Smith Outstanding Youth Award:** Shamiso Chikandura, Durham.
- **Helen D. Cox Scholarship:** Maalim Chege, Greenville.
- **AAMEN Adult Recognition Awards:** Gloria R. Burton and Renee Nixon, Durham; Rick M. Fisher, New Bern; Susan Kiongo, Cary; James Mwaniki, Kenyan Community; and Alphonsus Ngwadam, Raleigh.

At the close of the ceremony, AAME presented Bishop Burbidge with a gift of vestments in honor of his first anniversary as Bishop of Raleigh.

## Raleigh Parish to Initiate Just Life Program

▶ Beginning in October, Our Lady of Lourdes (OLL), in partnership with the Diocese of Raleigh, is sponsoring Just Life, a parish-wide, year-long, coordinated program focused on living responsibly and faithfully in the modern world with particular emphasis on practicing personal and social justice as it is understood and advocated by the Catholic Church. The program comprises three types of sessions:

Wednesday evening "prominent speaker" sessions (7:00-8:30 pm in the OLL Church or Fallon Center Hall) will include thought-provoking talks by Church-recognized authorities on the various aspects of personal and social justice. Bishop Michael Burbidge will speak at the first session on October 3. The other sessions will feature: Dr. Anatheia Portier-Young, Father David McBriar, Sister Joan Jurski of the Diocese of Raleigh, Dr. Jacques Mistrot, Dr. David Six, Betty Rogosich, Bishop Joseph Gossman, Father John Hurley of the Paulist Office of Reconciliation, and Joan Rosenhauer of the USCCB, in that order. These sessions are intended for a broad audience and are open to all.

Sunday morning discussion sessions, 10:25-11:15 a.m. in the OLL School library, will explore and apply the themes introduced during the Wednesday evening talks. Many will be led by Catholics with personal expertise and experience in applying of the themes in the community.

Lenten evening "meal-and-talk" sessions will be held, following Mass, on Wednesday evenings during Lent 2008. They will consist of a simple meal (in the Fallon Center) followed by a brief talk highlighting some of the specific opportunities for service/ministry to the needy within the community. Persons actively engaged in those ministries will give the talks. The talks will be appropriate for all age groups (including families with young children) and will provide many good suggestions for Lenten actions.

For more information, contact Joan Rose, Minister of Faith Formation, at 919-861-4614.

## Sisters of Notre Dame Honored at Cardinal Gibbons

▶ On Aug. 4, a Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge at Cardinal Gibbons High School honored the 35th Anniversary of service in the Diocese of Raleigh of the Sisters of Notre Dame. Msgr. Tim O'Connor delivered the homily, praising the passion and accomplishment of the Order's spiritual mother, St. Julie Billiart, and the ministry of the Sisters in the Diocese. Many of those Sisters have ministered at Cardinal Gibbons High School, and during the liturgy the Bishop blessed a statue of St. Julie sculpted by Sr. Megan Dull, herself a former teacher at Cardinal Gibbons.

Sister Dull spoke of the "idea that wouldn't go away" to portray St. Julie in a non-traditional way that would communicate the mission of education to which the Sisters of Notre Dame have dedicated themselves. The statue, on a base crafted by Cardinal Gibbons rising senior Ian Charles Garbarine and dedicated to Sister Mary Jean Korejwo, SND, is titled "Rapture in Action." A plaque on the base lists the names of 29 Sisters of Notre Dame who have served at Cardinal Gibbons.

Today there are five Sisters of the Order ministering in the Diocese of Raleigh, at Cardinal Gibbons, Our Lady of Lourdes in Raleigh and St. Andrew's in Apex.





## Diocese Reflects on fifth Anniversary and positive changes

►► This month the Diocese of Raleigh marks five years since the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops promulgated *The Charter for Protection of Children and Young People*. Dedicated to creating safe and healthy environments in our parishes, schools, families and communities, the Diocese of Raleigh initiated its Program for Child and Youth Protection in 2003 as a response to the Charter. The program trains parish and school leaders, as well as any parents who wish to attend, to recognize and report child abuse or neglect. The program also provides informational materials to support parents in their role as the primary educators of their children in matters of faith and morals.

"Last year, 18,400 parent pamphlets addressing safe environments were distributed in the Diocese," said Dr. John Pendergrass, Diocesan Director of the Program for Child and Youth Protection. "And this year I anticipate around 25,000. The partnership between parents and catechists provides children safe and sacred places to grow in faith. In addition to getting materials to parents, over 8,000 people have attended training from a curriculum designed by Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina." The program also has conducted more than 7,250 criminal background checks for those in ministry to children and teens. Through the efforts of local safe environment teams, parishes have held Internet classes and revised safety guidelines for parishes. "We are building a network of support for all those who guide children in forming a strong faith life," Pendergrass said.

At a recent gathering of safe environment leaders from the southeastern part of the Diocese, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge noted, "The safe and sacred places we create today will be doorways to God's grace for many years to come. Our commitment to the formation of children and young people is a wonderful reflection of Jesus' care and concern for children." Catechists assure more than 22,000 children per year that adults are here to keep them safe and to be a source of strength in crisis.

To contact the Diocesan Program for Child and Youth Protection, call 1.866.535-7233 or e-mail [safe@raldioc.org](mailto:safe@raldioc.org).

## In memoriam

►► **Sister M. Bettina Batchelder, CSC**, the founding principal of Our Lady of Lourdes School in Raleigh, died on May 16, at St. Mary Convent, Notre Dame, IN. Sister Bettina served at Our Lady of Lourdes 1954-57. After many years as teacher, college professor and dean of women at Dunbarton College, Washington, DC, she returned to Our Lady of Lourdes as assistant principal 1992-93, then served as pastoral visitor to the sick at St. Raphael Parish, Raleigh, 1993-99.

**Sister M. Jeanetta Hughes, IHM**, of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, died on June 21, at Our Lady of Peace Residence in Scranton. She served as a teacher at St. Paul Elementary School in New Bern, NC, 1943-46.

**Sister Frances Finnegan, SP**, formerly known as Sister Mary Donald, died in Terre Haute, IN, on June 23. She served as a teacher at Blessed Sacrament School, Burlington, NC, 1961-63.

**Sister M. Rene Stewart**, of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart, died July 5 in Baltimore, MD. She was 75 and had served as a parish visitor and religious educator in Statesville, Farmville, Charlotte and Winston-Salem in the 1960s and '70s.

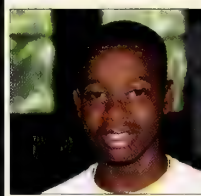
## Try it, you'll like it! "Why go to church?"

►► This month, we asked Catholic teens at the Faithful Servant youth retreat, "What would you tell a young person who asked you, '**Why should I go to church?**'"



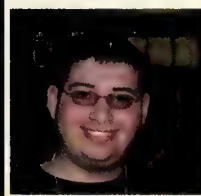
**Catie,**  
**Riverside High School,**  
**Immaculate Conception Parish,**  
**Durham**

When you find a church you like, you'll make good friends who also celebrate and worship what you believe.



**Kyle,**  
**Jack Britt High School, Fayetteville;**  
**Good Shepherd Parish, Hope Mills**

Faith gives you something to hope for besides just the things of this world, and church strengthens your faith.



**Christopher,**  
**East Chapel Hill High School**  
**St. Thomas More Parish, Chapel Hill**

It's a great way to meet other kids of the same faith. You already have something in common.



**Emily,**  
**Enloe High School,**  
**St. Raphael Parish, Raleigh**

You'll make best friends, and you'll learn to experience the peace that comes from prayer and listening.



**Sammy,**  
**C.E. Jordan High School,**  
**Immaculate Conception Parish,**  
**Durham**

Church gives you a sense of belonging, and faith shifts your perspective on the world. You grow as a person, and you improve your relationship with yourself and with God.



**Brian,**  
**Hoggard High School,**  
**St. Mark Parish, Wilmington**

Church will deepen your faith, and it will grow on you. God is a miracle worker: He can help you with any problem.



## things to do:

**Anniversary Mass.** Bishop Michael Burbidge will celebrate Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral at noon on Sept. 5, the fifth anniversary of his ordination as a bishop.

**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour,** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sept. 7 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. The VHHs are open to everyone, but they are certainly unique opportunities for men and women discerning a church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment. Next month's VHH on Oct. 5.

The **13th annual Run for Life** in Raleigh will be on Saturday, Sept. 8. Your help in person, with a donation, running or passing the word is greatly appreciated. For a sponsor form with all of the details, contact Mary Angelini, [maryangelini@nc.rr.com](mailto:maryangelini@nc.rr.com), or 919.274.1449. The run has raised more than \$70,000 for pro-life groups over the past 12 years.

**Marriage Help – Retrouvaille** (pronounced retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the September program beginning with a weekend on Sept. 12-14, call 336.297.0595 or e-mail [retrouvaillenc@msn.com](mailto:retrouvaillenc@msn.com) or visit the Web site at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org).



**Search Team Training,** 7:30 p.m. Sept. 14-noon Sept. 16, at the Short Journey Center in Smithfield. Search Team Training is a weekend for youth who have made Search Retreats. Participants will be given training in peer ministry, leadership skills, giving faith talks, community building and coordinating the weekend schedule. Teams are chosen for upcoming searches from Team Training participants. Contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770, or [Hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:Hagarty@raldioc.org).

**Effective Leadership in the Parish,** Sept. 14-15 at the Catholic Center, Raleigh. This course considers key, practical aspects of effective leadership in local faith communities consistent with current theologies on Church and ministry. Participants explore and experiment with leadership and ministry-team paradigms in light of the mission of the church and their own ecclesial visions. Special attention will be given to the crucial leadership skills of collaboration, navigating change/transition and spiritual self-care in modern church life and administration. Contact Bea Callery at 919.821.9715 or [bea.callery@raldioc.org](mailto:bea.callery@raldioc.org).

**Centering Prayer Introduction Workshop.** Karen Hoffman and the St. Francis of Assisi Centering Prayer Group will be presenting an introduction to Centering Prayer from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Sept. 15, at La Verna Center, 11501 Leesville Road, Raleigh. Try out this method of silent prayer. "Be still and know that I am God." Call the receptionist at St Francis, 847.8205, to register for this event.

**Marriage Encounter Weekend,** Sept. 21-23 at Avila Retreat Center, Durham. Marriage Encounter Weekends are designed to give married couples the opportunity to examine their relationships. For more information, visit <http://www.me-nc.info>.

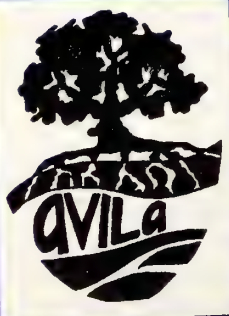
**Fifth annual International Festival** sponsored by St. Eugene, Wendell, begins at 11 a.m. Sept. 22, in the Wendell town square. Food, games, free admission.

**Triangle Area Korean Catholics Mass,** 7:30 p.m. Sept. 22 at St. Michael the Archangel, Cary.

**Discernment Group.** Adult Catholic men between the ages of 18-48 discerning a possible call to priesthood are invited to a Discernment Group, meeting monthly on a Saturday. If you are mildly curious or even a bit more serious about the call to priesthood please consider attending this group. The Discernment Group provides a comfortable and safe place to discuss your thoughts and feelings about a possible call to priesthood with other men who are also examining the call. The group discusses issues central to the call and does so within the context of prayer, discussion and support. The next group meets 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sept. 22 at the Office of Vocations, 226 Hillsborough St., Raleigh. If you think that this group may be for you, please call Father Ned Shlesinger at 919.832.6279 or e-mail him at [shlesinger@raldioc.org](mailto:shlesinger@raldioc.org).

**Lay Leadership Skills for Facilitating Adult Learning,** 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 29 at St. Peter, Greenville. This workshop, which also serves as part one of the three-part training for leaders of the Life in the Spirit seminars, provides a grounding in lay leadership in the Church as well as specific skills for working with adult learning communities. Fee to cover materials and lunch is only \$10. Advance registration is required. Contact Bea Callery at 919.821.9715 or [bea.callery@raldioc.org](mailto:bea.callery@raldioc.org).

**Our African Ancestry Spiritual Choir** at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Raleigh will be marking its 25th anniversary in September. To celebrate, we are inviting the public to join us from 5-7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 23, at Sacred Heart Cathedral for a free concert. We will sing old and new favorites. Former members of the choir are especially urged to attend.



### Upcoming retreats at Avila Retreat Center

**Avila Retreat Center**  
711 Mason Road  
Durham, NC 27712.

► To register or for more information, call 919.477.1285

[www.avila-retreat-center.com](http://www.avila-retreat-center.com)

### ► Guides for the Journey: Essential Reading for Spiritual Seekers 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Sept. 12, Donation: \$20 (includes lunch).

We will explore the practice of spiritual reading as an aid to growth and transformation. The peaceful setting of Avila will help us to focus on books and authors providing guidance to many seekers, including us, over the years. There will be quiet time, sharing favorite texts and authors, lectio divina and prayer together. Bring along a favorite spiritual reading book! Presenter Sister Joanna Walsh is a member of the Faithful Companions of Jesus, an international religious congregation rooted in Ignatian spirituality. She offers spiritual direction and facilitates spiritual formation groups at Duke Divinity School. She is co-leader of an ecumenical program for pastors entitled *The Pastor as Spiritual Guide*.



Catholic Charities of the Dioceses of Raleigh and Richmond will sponsor a **Parish Social Ministry Training** conference on Friday evening, Sept. 28 until noon Sunday, Sept. 30 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Raleigh. The training is an opportunity for people in the parishes to gain practical, hands-on skills, to be inspired and to share parish experiences. Keynote speakers include Father Bryan Massingale, S.T.D., associate professor of Theology, Marquette University; Jack Jezreel, founder and executive director, JustFaith Ministries; and Marie Dennis, director, Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns. Workshops will provide skills to answer the Church's fundamental call to its social mission. Bishop Burbidge will celebrate the liturgy on Saturday evening. You can view a brochure and/or register via the diocesan Web site by going to [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/events/view.aspx?id=600](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/events/view.aspx?id=600) or you can call the registrar at 919.821.9744. For more information, contact the Office of Peace and Justice 919.821.9751.

Celebrate **Hispanic Heritage Month**. Annual Diocesan Mass to be held at St. Mark's, Wilmington at 1 p.m., Oct. 13. For more information, call the office for Hispanic Ministry at 919.821.9764 or 821.9738.

Vengan a celebrar el **Mes de la Hispanidad**. La misa anual diocesana se celebrara el 13 de octubre, 1 pm en la parroquia St. Mark's de Wilmington. Para más información, favor de comunicarse con las oficinas del ministerio hispano al 919.821.9764 o 821.9738.

**AAMEN Chapter of St. Joseph's - Raleigh** is sponsoring a **day trip to Alexandria, Va.**, to celebrate the anniversary of the St. Joseph's Gospel Choir. The trip is on Sunday, Oct. 21. The bus price per seat is \$45. If you want more information about the trip please contact Liz Chance immediately at 919.872.2917. Payment is due on Sept. 16. Check or money order payable to AAMEN Chapter/St. Joseph's/Raleigh. Payment may be sent to St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 2817 Poole Road, Raleigh, NC 27610.

Plan now to attend the **Emmaus Conference** Oct. 19-20 at St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh. This annual adult conference sponsored by the Division of Evangelization and Catechesis is intended for parish catechetical leaders, catechists, youth ministers, priests, liturgical ministers, young adults, school teachers, anyone and everyone involved in passing on the faith, seeking spiritual renewal and companionship. This year's theme is: *Catechesis: Encountering the Living Christ*.

#### ► **Survivors of Abuse Workshop**

**8:30 a.m. Sept. 24-11:30 a.m. Sept. 28**

Five-day workshop for men and women survivors of emotional, sexual or physical abuse. Workshop leader: Sharon Tobin, LCSW, Foundress of Safe Harbors, Burbank, Calif.

#### ► **A Contemporary Look at Mary**

**9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 2, Donation: \$30 (includes lunch)** A journey with Mary using the seven times Mary speaks in the gospels; she leads us to her son Jesus.

Presenter: Very Rev. Msgr. Tim O'Connor, V.F., Pastor, St. Michael the Archangel Church, Cary, N.C.

## September Readings

### Sunday, Sept. 2

*Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Sir 3:17,  
18,20,28-29  
Ps 68:4-5, 6-7,10-11  
Heb 12:18-19,22-24a  
Lk 14:1,7-14

### Sunday, Sept. 9

*Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Wis 9:13-18b  
Ps 90:3-4,5-6,12-13,14-17(1)  
Phlm 9-10,12-17  
Lk 14:25-33

### Sunday, Sept. 16

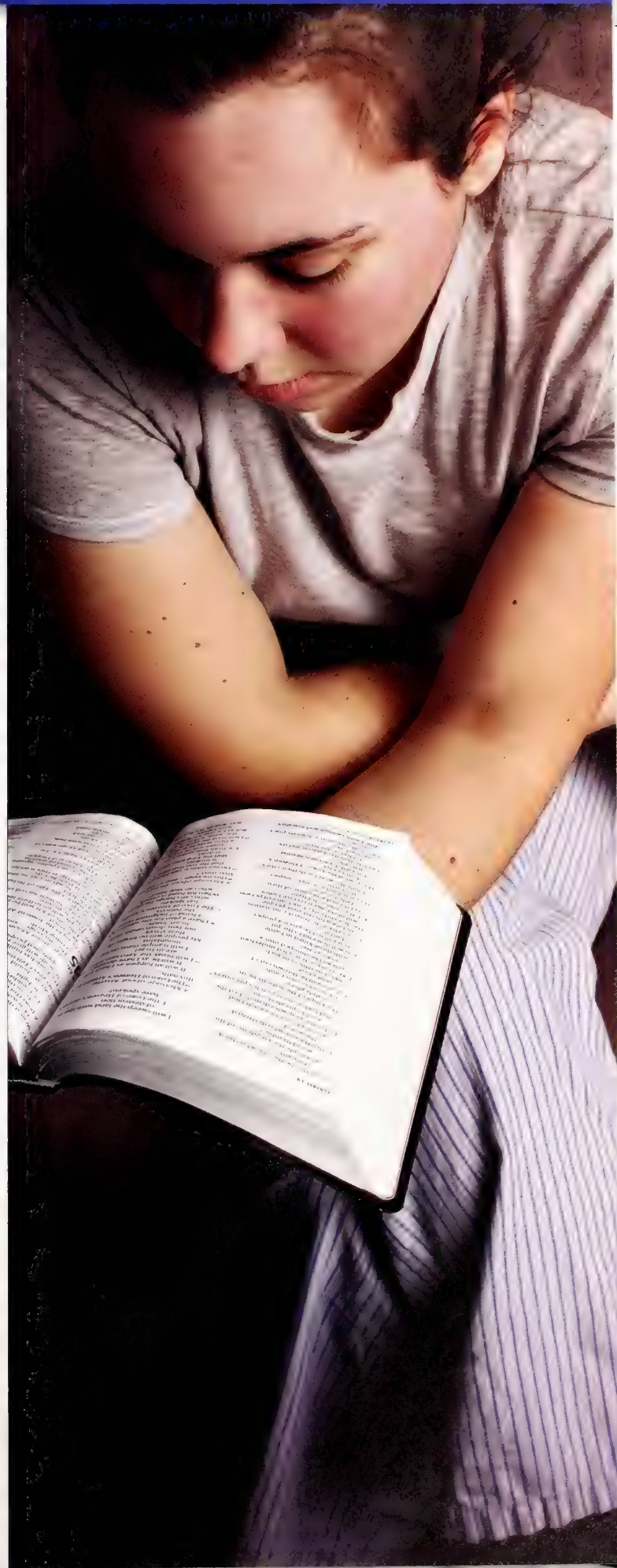
*Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Ex 32:7-11,13-14  
Ps 51:3-4,12-13,17,19  
1 Tm 1:12-17  
Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10

### Sunday, Sept. 23

*Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Am 8:4-7  
Ps 113:1-2,4-6,7-8  
1 Tm 2:1-8;  
Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

### Sunday, September 30

*Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Am 6:1a,4-7  
Ps 146:7,8-9,9-10(1b)  
1 Tm 6:11-16  
Lk 16:19-31







In June, 21 high school youth and several adults from St. Mark's Church in Wilmington participated in a two-day service project to their mission church, Christ the King in Riegelwood. The youth gave the church an inside and outside "facelift." Youth Ministry Director Mary Pat Barth called the project "Habitat for Humanity in our backyard."



### Youth repair Fayetteville homes

►► This summer St. Patrick Church, Fayetteville, hosted youth from Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina who participated in Home Works, a non-profit program to repair the homes of those who can't afford or are unable to do the repairs themselves. For a week, youth from St. Patrick joined with their peers to paint, roof and rebuild portions of houses in Fayetteville. Some of the participants were experienced from previous summers, while others were learning construction skills by doing, under the supervision of a contractor and of St. Patrick Youth Ministry Director Vince Mescall. The youth, who were housed and fed at St. Patrick's Family Life Center, said they were motivated by being able to make a difference with their summers, and by the appreciation of the homeowners they assisted.



### Continued from page 30

Father Edgar Sepulveda, a native of Colombia, has ministered to the community of Posada for three years, and was installed in August as the first pastor of the new parish. He describes his flock as "poor economically, but rich in talents, faith and love for God and the Church, and wealthy in service." The parish has no hired staff; everything from cleaning to repairs to mowing the grass is the work of volunteers.

Father Edgar describes a rapidly growing immigrant community, with the pastoral and material challenges that growth implies. The parish has no rectory and, despite 40-plus weddings and more than 100 First Communion a year, no parish hall. The pastor acknowledges that construction is expensive, but says, "I'm not worried so much about that. I hope the people of the Diocese will pray for us, and I believe God will give us what we need to do His work."

That work, according to Father Edgar, is to be a supportive, evangelizing community. "We want to spread the mission of the charismatic renewal, and the joy of the Holy Spirit, throughout the Diocese," he says. "And we want to support each other materially and spiritually, like a family, especially since many of our members are separated from their natural families in other countries." Many non-Catholic churches try to be this family, he says, by offering food and assistance to immigrants, "but we also have the Bread of Life."

"I think," Father Edgar concludes, "I have never worked among more humble people, and that is a great happiness. When Jesus spoke about humble people, I think He was speaking about people like these." ✠

— Rich Reece



# *Un hombre fuerte para apoyarse en un momento difícil.*

Estimado Caballero Supremo:

Cuando mi esposo se hizo Caballero de Colón, nos presentaron a nuestro agente de seguros, Mike Walter, e inmediatamente nos dimos cuenta que Mike se ocupaba de su carrera como si fuera un "ministerio" en vez de un cargo de ventas. Nunca me imagine en ese entonces lo que ese ministerio habría de significar para mí.

Durante nuestras reuniones, no fuimos fáciles de persuadir. Mike nunca se dio por vencido y siempre buscó la forma como demostrarnos que la necesidad existía. Nos ayudó hasta que por fin pudimos comprender el valor de contar con la protección de un seguro de vida.

Mi esposo murió repentinamente el otoño pasado. Su muerte fue un golpe para todos nosotros. Aunque desde el punto de vista médico no debería haber sucedido, me imagino que Dios pensó que había cumplido con su labor en esta tierra. Pude contar con Mike de inmediato. Estuvo en el velorio, asistió al funeral y permaneció a mi lado para ayudarme en cuanto fuera posible. Lloré por mi esposo igual que yo.

En este mundo en donde todos se preocupan sólo de las ganancias, presencie lo que los Caballeros son verdaderamente capaces de hacer. Pude contar con ellos cuando más lo necesité.

— Amber Díaz\*



\*Basada en una carta verdadera. Los nombres se han cambiado para que se mantengan anónimos.

Para localizar un agente de Caballeros de Colón, visite [KOFc.org](http://KOFc.org) y haga clic en "Encontrar un agente", o bien llame al 1-800-345-5632.

Seguros Caballeros de Colón  
A.M. Best: A++ (Superior)  
Standard & Poor's: AAA (Extremadamente sólida)  
Certificada por IMSA



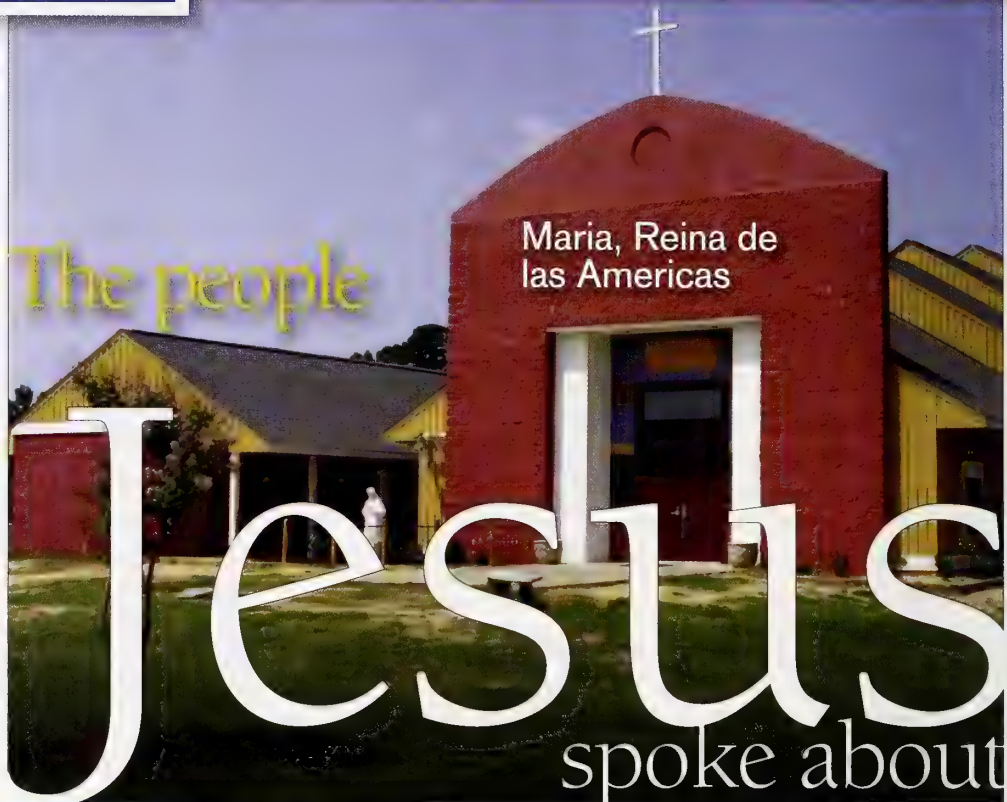
Caballeros de Colón  
**SEGURO**  
*Haciendo una diferencia para toda la vida.*



**T**he small but colorful church of Maria, Reina de las Americas (Maria, Queen of the Americas), the newest parish in the Diocese of Raleigh, is, to make full use of both words, simply beautiful. Behind the 9-foot-high front door, framed in green, gold and blue tile and a red façade, the gold-sided structure rises in sections so that the highest part of the roof is over the altar. The building was dedicated in 1999, but Mass was first celebrated for its entirely Hispanic community 10 years earlier.

Father John Williams was pastor of Immaculate Conception in Clinton in 1989. "The Carolina Turkey processing plant was recruiting workers from Mexico and Guatemala," he recalls, "and they had provided a 40-family mobile home park near the plant for employees." In the early days, Father Williams celebrated Mass in the trailers or outdoors. In 1992, a general manager at the turkey plant (his aunt was a nun) gave the new community permission to share a hunter's shack on the grounds when the weather was inclement. The building still stands and would be the mission's center for seven years. In a December 1994 article in the NC Catholic newspaper, Father Williams described the community's first Christmas midnight Mass in what was called the Casita, the "little house":

"The scene was filthy and grim beyond the telling. No cleaning and no decorating could be done. Then a key was lost, and there



the Diocese of  
**Raleigh**

resource

**Maria,  
Reina  
de las  
Americas**

636 Whitfield  
Road  
P.O. Box 332,  
Kenansville NC  
28349  
919.658.4023

Call the parish  
office for Mass  
times.

was a failure of communication, and the leader who was to have gotten it all together departed. When I arrived, the congregation was outside in the bitter cold, waiting. Nothing was set up. Not a flower, not a sprig of greenery.

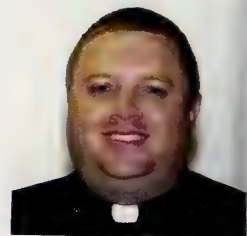
"An ancient tape recorder got jammed mysteriously, and as pitiful as this tool was for Christmas instrumental music, it never functioned. There were conflicting ways of singing *Adeste Fideles* in Spanish, and this opening hymn bombed incredibly. A primitive gas space heater could never be started.

"More things went wrong than I could write about. Then, just before the sermon, it came to me in a flash that the ingredients of this totally improbable situation almost exactly mirrored the

nativity of Jesus. ... In our own place, we were being given the privilege of experiencing the poverty of Bethlehem."

Things would get better. Sister Joan Jurski's "Young Neighbors in Action" volunteers repaired and painted the building, which was eventually given to the community now known as Posada Guadalupana. In 1999, the new church, designed by a Mexican architect to capture the same sense of

**"When Jesus spoke  
about humble  
people, I think He  
was speaking about  
people like these."**



sacred space immigrants had been used to at home, rose on ground donated by the owners of Carolina Turkey. Construction was funded by a loan and a gift from the diocese, as well as a gift from the Catholic Extension Society.

Continued on page 28



# use your **IRA** as never before: to make a **gift** to the **Catholic Church**

On Aug. 17, 2006, President Bush signed into law The Pension Protection Act of 2006 that encourages financial support of charitable organizations across the United States. The new legislation offers a welcome incentive to donors who want to use the money in their IRAs to make charitable gifts.

**How the New Law Works:** The IRA rollover provision allows charitable distributions of up to \$100,000 from an IRA or a Roth IRA to be excluded from your gross income. In addition, the amount rolled over will count against a donor's minimum distribution requirement. As in previous versions of IRA rollover legislation, there is no federal income tax deduction available for these contributions in addition to their exclusion from income.

## Example On How The New Law Works:

Pat, aged 80, has \$450,000 in an IRA and has pledged to give \$75,000 to her church this year. If Pat transfers \$75,000 from the IRA, she will avoid paying income tax on that amount. She cannot, however, claim a charitable deduction — it is a pure "wash." Pat has found an easy way to benefit her church without tax complications. If she desires, Pat could give more than \$100,000 because the legislation allows a maximum \$100,000 gift in both the 2006 and 2007 tax years. If her spouse has an IRA and is 70-1/2 or older, he can also give up to \$100,000 each year.

You may contribute funds this way if:

- You are age 70-1/2 or older
- The gift is \$100,000 or less each year
- You make the gift on or before Dec. 31, 2007
- You transfer funds directly from an IRA or Rollover IRA to the charity
- You transfer the gift outright to one or more public charities; rollovers to a planned gift, such as a gift annuity or a charitable remainder trust, do not qualify.

**How to Make a Gift:** Contact Debbie Rossi at the Diocese of Raleigh for a sample letter to provide to your IRA custodian to transfer your desired gift amount to the Catholic Church. For example, you can pay your BAA, God's Work~Our Challenge, parish capital campaign pledge or offertory with this gift.

For more information, please call Debbie Rossi at (919) 821-9721, or email her at [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org). You may also write her at: Diocese of Raleigh; 715 Nazareth St.; Raleigh, NC 27606.



Visit our Web Site: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.

## Catholic Women's Personal Planning Seminar

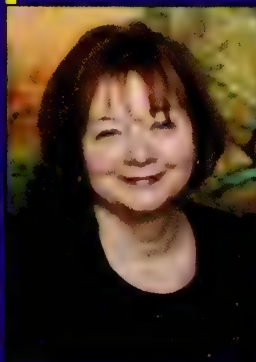


Delynn Dolan Alexander

Want a  
better  
understanding  
of women's  
unique  
personal  
planning  
issues?

Please join us for a

### *Wine & Cheese Gathering*



Mary Markovich

Wednesday, September 26

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Brier Creek Country Club

9400 Club Hill Drive,

Raleigh NC 27617

Spend two hours with Delynn Dolan Alexander, a financial planner; Mary Markovich, an attorney; and Debbie Rossi, director of the Office of Stewardship and Development; and learn how to manage your financial resources, how much money you'll need for retirement, how to establish an estate plan, charitable planning techniques, and other strategies for effective personal planning.

This seminar is provided as a service of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh. Many thanks to our volunteers for providing this service to our parishioners.

Reserve your spot by contacting Debbie Rossi by September 19 at (919) 821-9721 or [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org)





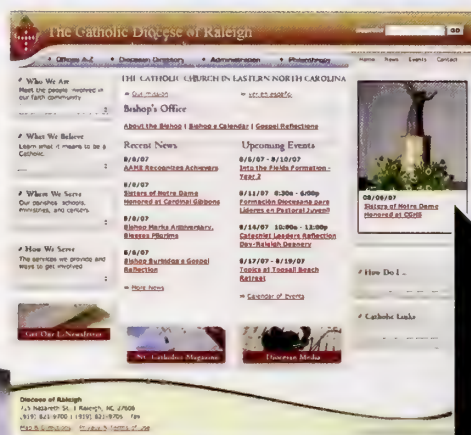
# your church at your fingertips

⬆ **breaking, detailed diocesan news**

⬆ **complete events calendar**

⬆ **podcasting** ⬆ **parish links**

⬆ **Bishop's weekly gospel reflections –  
video and print versions**



Go Now to  
[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514  
113774 P 14 1403  
SERIALS DEPARTMENT 34656  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
UNC CHAPEL HILL  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIocese of RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

October 2007

\$2.00

www.NCCatholics.org

## WE CARE. WE'VE BEEN THERE.

When a baby dies, nurses  
Carla, Patty and Gail help  
families grieve

from the bishop

**We rededicate  
ourselves to life**

since you asked

**Dear NCC:**  
Whom do I vote for?

Obispo Burbidge

**Rindamos tributo  
a la vida**

parish profile

Abundant blessings shared  
**St. Mark, Wilmington**





**“I** have set before you life and death... choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live, by loving the Lord, your God, heeding His voice and holding fast to Him” (Deut. 30:19-20).

The Church in the United States has designated October 7 as *Respect Life Sunday*. This day is a special opportunity for us to rededicate ourselves as a people who celebrate life, who protect life and who find Life in Christ Jesus.

**We celebrate life.** Pro-life means we recognize that all persons are created in the image and likeness of God and hold firmly that life is sacred from the moment of conception to natural death. We recognize that the Holy Spirit dwells within each one of us. We are profoundly grateful for one another, and we treat each day as an unrepeatable gift. We *choose and celebrate life* and give daily praise and thanks to God Our Creator for this precious gift.

**We protect life.** The Second Vatican Council highlighted the need our world has for courageous prophets who speak and act on behalf of life: “Whatever is opposed to life itself... whatever violates the integrity of the human person... whatever insults human dignity... where people are treated as mere instruments of gain rather than as free and responsible persons... all these things and others like them poison human society and are a supreme dishonor to the Creator” (*Gaudium et Spes*, 27). As prophets and followers of the Lord, we must strive daily, with God’s help, to eradicate any such evil in our midst.

This month’s theme for our diocesan magazine highlights the need for kindness and gentleness. Protecting life demands these qualities. However, gentleness and kindness are not synonymous with weakness. In order to become

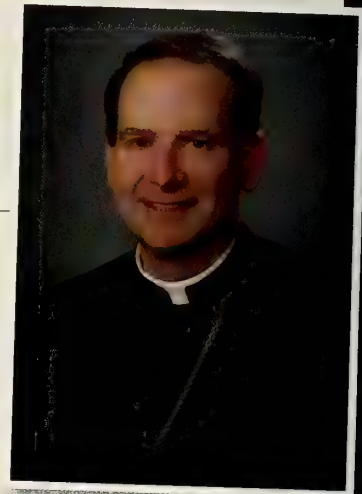
powerful forces in the protection of human life, others must see in us the face of Christ, for we are sent in His name. We courageously, boldly and consistently speak the truth, but always in the spirit of compassion and ever respectful of the dignity of each person.

We must take advantage of the opportunities our Diocese and parishes provide to act on behalf of life. It is my hope that you will prepare now to attend the Rally for Life in Raleigh on Saturday, January 12, 2008, and be part of the Raleigh contingent on January 22, 2008, for the March for Life in Washington, DC. The rally and march are conducted in a prayerful, gentle and unified spirit. What powerful forces these gatherings can be on behalf of the protection of human life!

**We find life.** The work of protecting and defending the sacredness of all human life can seem overwhelming in this complicated world. That would always be the case if we relied on our own resources. Yet we must not despair; for in our Savior we find life. We are believers *who love the Lord Our God, who heed His voice and hold fast to Him*. We celebrate in word and sacrament Jesus’ victory of life over death! Most especially in the Eucharist, we find the strength, consolation and motivation we need. Through him, with Him and in Him, life is always victorious!

As I travel through this Diocese, I see a profound commitment to life through the example and witness of countless people. Through the intercession of Mary Our Mother and the divine assistance of her Son may we always *celebrate the precious gift of life, protect the sacredness of all human life and find new life in God the Father who created us, in His Son Jesus, the Bread of Life, who sustains us, and in the Holy Spirit, who guides us in all endeavors both now and forever*.

– Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is Bishop of Raleigh.



# We rededicate ourselves to life



cover  
story

**"We Care.  
We've Been  
There"**

►► When a  
baby dies,  
nurses Carla,  
Patty and Gail  
help families  
grieve



el hispano Católico

**16** el hispano católico  
El pueblo del que hablaba Jesús  
Maria, Reina de las Américas – Rich Reece

**18** Ya que usted lo pregunta...  
¿A quién le doy mi voto? Es difícil  
conseguir candidato alguno que comparta la idea  
de vida y sea completamente consistente con las  
enseñanzas de la iglesia católica. – Rev. Monseñor Steve Worsley

**19** Obispo  
Burbidge  
Rindamos  
tributo a la vida

– Obispo Michael E.  
Burbidge



**24** culture  
A spiritual lift in a gift basket

– Michelle Sessions Difranco

**30** parish profile  
Abundant blessings shared  
St. Mark, Wilmington – Rich Reece



# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

## from the bishop

**2** We rededicate ourselves to life

– Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

## since you asked ...

**6** Dear NCC: Whom do I vote for?

It's hard to find a single candidate  
whose views on the sanctity of life are  
completely consistent with Catholic  
teaching.

– Msgr. Steve Worsley

## from the editor

**7** Gentleness goes both ways – Rich Reece

## theology 101

**8** Who is the Son of Man? Why does  
Jesus always refer to himself as the Son  
of Man, rather than the Son of God?

– Elizabeth Solsburg

## voices in our church

**11** Affirm Our Youth

– Msgr. Thomas Hadden

**11** La Familia Hispana fortalecida en la  
Fe y la Tradición

– Padre Fernando Torres

## marriage matters

**20** She says: He flirts with other wom-  
en. He says: I'm just being friendly.  
What do they do?

– Tom and JoAnne Fogle

## parenting journey

**21** "Can you hear me now?" When  
should kids have a cell phone?

– Dr. Cathleen McGreal

## spiritual fitness

**22** Radical kindness – how kind acts can  
overcome evil.

– Father Bill Ashbaugh

## work life

**27** My boss is wet behind the ears  
– what do we do when our manager  
has less experience?

– Tim Ryan



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

October 2007 • Vol. 3 : Issue 8

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Sister Joan Jurski  
Father Fernando Torres  
Msgr. Steve Worsley  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

EW Photography (cover)  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vicki Bedard  
DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING

Jillane Job  
SUBSCRIPTIONS/SECRETARY

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Enomhen Odigie  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Betsy Miner  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Michelle Sessions Difrancio  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™. Catholic Diocese of Raleigh. ©2005. Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730

## St. Thomas More Academy dedicates new facilities

►► St. Thomas More Academy, an independent Catholic school in the Diocese of Raleigh, dedicated its new chapel and school building at 3109 Spring Forest Road in Raleigh on Saturday, Aug. 25. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge presided at the Mass of Blessing. The school, now in its sixth year of operation, has a current enrollment of 85 students.

In his homily, Bishop Burbidge said the blessing of the chapel and school exists "so that students can always be aware of their sources of strength: the sacraments, prayer, God's Word and the teachings and traditions of our Holy Catholic Faith."



## St. Stanislaus to hold 10th annual Polish Festival

►► For the 10th consecutive year, people will be arriving from all over North Carolina and its neighboring states for the Polish Festival at St. Stanislaus Church in Castle Hayne.

This year's event, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Nov. 3, will feature authentic Polish foods including pierogi, kielbasas, stuffed cabbage and potato pancakes. The dessert menu offers poppy seed rolls, Angel's Wings, nut rolls, pastries and cheesecake. Raleigh's Polka Plus Band will provide live music from noon to 4 p.m. There will be pony rides, face painting and games for the children, as well as craft and souvenir booths, and live and silent auctions. Admission and parking are free.



## Bishop celebrates Mass at Cardinal Gibbons High

►► The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Holy Mass for the students, faculty and staff of Cardinal Gibbons High School on Tuesday, Aug. 28th. This year's student enrollment at the diocesan high school is 1,134 students. With the Bishop are Father Scott McCue, Assistant Principal for Spiritual Life at CGHS, and Mr. Jason D. Curtis, Principal.



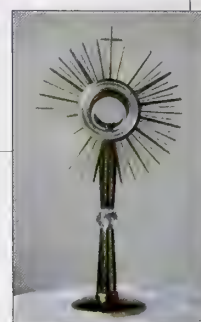
## Vocations Holy Hour resumes

►► First Friday Vocations Holy Hour (VHH) in the Diocese of Raleigh resumed Sept. 7 at Sacred Heart Cathedral. This will be the second year for the monthly prayer service and benediction, which began last November. The Vocations Holy Hour provides the people of the diocese an opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

In the first year, the Holy Hour was held each month at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Raleigh. This year, the hour of prayer and benediction will be conducted in each of the eight deaneries of the diocese, with Bishop Michael F. Burbidge as the presider/homilist. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Rocky Mount will host the Holy Hour in the Tar River Deanery on Oct. 5.

The tentative schedule is as follows:

- **Sept. 7, 2007**  
Raleigh Deanery
- **Oct. 5, 2007**  
Tar River Deanery
- **Nov. 2, 2007**  
Newton Grove Deanery
- **Dec. 7, 2007**  
Piedmont Deanery
- **Jan. 4, 2008**  
Fayetteville Deanery
- **Feb. 1, 2008**  
Cape Fear Deanery
- **March 7, 2008**  
New Bern Deanery
- **May 2, 2008**  
Albemarle Deanery
- **June 6, 2008** - Raleigh Deanery



## CORRECTION

►► In our September issue, p. 8, Reverend Scott E. McCue was incorrectly identified as pastor of St. Ann Parish in Clayton. Fr. McCue is Assistant Principal for Spiritual Life at Cardinal Gibbons High School.



## Pray for our seminarians by name

►► Bishop Michael F. Burbidge is asking Catholics in the Diocese of Raleigh to join him in praying by name for the 20 men from the diocese who are in formation for the priesthood. Eight of the men are new to the program.

This year, 14 men will be attending St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia, where Bishop Burbidge once served as Rector. Two are enrolled at St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami, two at Theological College in Washington, D.C., and one each at St. Andrew's College Seminary in South Orange, N.J. and St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.

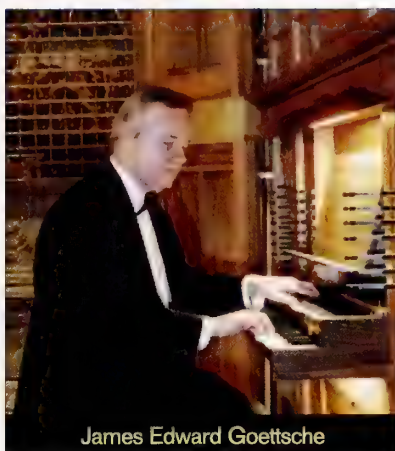
Two of the seminarians, Romen Alfredo Acero and Michael Richard Spurr, were ordained to the diaconate in June and are scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood in 2008.

"Prayers are a special gift to our seminarians, our Diocese and our Church," Bishop Burbidge said. Below is the list of Diocesan seminarians and the Diocesan Prayer for Vocations.

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| • Deacon Romen Acero    | • Charles Fraune     |
| • Deacon Michael Spurr  | • Vic Gournas        |
| • Jonathon Bagget       | • Ron Hackett        |
| • Alexis Barreto        | • Alex Hernandez     |
| • Juan Pablo Barrientos | • Eladio Hernandez   |
| • Al Benthall           | • Juan Manuel Lopez  |
| • Brendan Buckler       | • Don Maloney        |
| • Michael Burbeck       | • Patrick McLaughlin |
| • Nick Cottrill         | • Adam Richard       |
| • Ryan Elder            | • Sergio Velez       |

### Diocesan Prayer for Vocations

*O Lord Jesus Christ, Great High Priest, I pray that you call many worthy men to your holy priesthood. Enlighten our Bishop in forming our candidates, our Director of Vocations in guiding them and their professors in teaching and training them. Lead the seminarians in your unerring footsteps so they may become priests who are models of purity, possessors of wisdom and heroes of sacrifice. May they be steeped in humility and aflame with love for God and others. Mary, Queen of the Clergy, pray for us. Amen.*



James Edward Goettsche

## Vatican organist plays in New Bern

►► On Sept. 20, James Edward Goettsche (pronounced "getchy"), principal organist at the Vatican since 1989, gave an organ recital to a full St. Paul Church in New Bern. After graduating from the Conservatory of Rome in 1968, Goettsche made a name for himself playing regular concerts on one of the largest organs in the city

at the Basilica of Saint Frances of Rome.

In 1989, when the official organist of St. Peter's retired, Goettsche was appointed as his replacement through a private election. Today, his colleagues at the Basilica refer to him as "Maestro Jimmy."

The self-taught musician first heard the organ in church as a child growing up in the Midwest. In his years at St. Peter's, Goettsche has played at nearly every papal Mass. He also played at the Beatification Mass of Mother Teresa. But he says that providing the music for the funeral of Pope John II "was perhaps the greatest single honor bestowed upon me."

## New deans appointed

►► Bishop Michael F. Burbidge has announced the appointment of deans for the eight deaneries in the Diocese of Raleigh. (The 32,000-square-mile area which comprises the diocese is divided into eight deaneries or regions.) The role of the dean (vicar forane), who is appointed to a four-year term, is to promote and coordinate the common pastoral activity in his deanery according to the direction of the bishop. The recently appointed deans are:

- Albemarle Deanery: Very Reverend Samuel J. Buchholz, VF
- Cape Fear Deanery: Very Reverend Joseph T. Brennan, O.S.F.S., VF
- Fayetteville Deanery: Reverend Monsignor Jeffrey A. Ingham, VF
- New Bern Deanery: Very Reverend Ernest J. Ruede, VF
- Newton Grove Deanery: Very Reverend James F. Garneau, VF
- Piedmont Deanery: Very Reverend Robert Benko, O.F.M. Conv., VF
- Raleigh Deanery: Very Reverend John J. Forbes III, VF
- Tar River Deanery: Very Reverend Justin Kerber, C.P., VF



FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 5  
NOVEMBER 2  
LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

FIRST FRIDAY  
VOCATIONS  
HOLY HOUR

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH  
IN ROCKY MOUNT

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD  
AND RELIGIOUS LIFE IN THE DIOCESE OF RALEIGH.

HOLY HOUR BEGINS 7 P.M.

## Director of Major Gifts

Candidate for the Diocese of Charlotte must be a practicing Catholic and a college graduate with a degree in marketing, communications, business administration or related field; five years experience in fund development and major gifts. Applicants should have strong interpersonal and communication skills, and the ability to interact well with diverse groups. Responsibilities include developing strategies, events, and materials to inform, engage, cultivate and solicit current and prospective major gifts prospects. The position will also oversee the management of a portfolio of 200 top level prospects.

Please submit resume to Jim Kelley, Office of Development  
1123 South Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203  
Questions to jkkelly@charlottediocese.org or call 704-370-3301



# Dear NCC

This month with Msgr. Steve Worsley, MD, STL

**Whom do I vote for?** It's hard to find a single candidate whose views on the sanctity of life are completely consistent with Catholic teaching.

**T**hat's a great question, for which my grandmother had the perfect answer. Each year on Election Day, when she entered the voting booth, she would kick Granddad under the curtain and ask him whom to vote for. Her system worked well until the year it happened that the man she had kicked under the curtain wasn't her husband!

I don't know if you ever had a chance to meet Grandmother – she lived in Greenville – but from your question you clearly understand the moral of her story. We need to spend time thinking about whom to vote for before we get to the polling place.

What Grandmother's story doesn't tell, but she surely would have if you'd asked her, is that our faith should guide the choices we make on Election Day just as faith should guide our actions every other day. The starting point for any important decision is the commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves. Campaign strategists often take it for granted that we will vote our own best interests. Yet for followers of Jesus – or Abraham or Mohammad for that matter – it isn't enough to simply look after our own interests. We are called to look after our neighbors as well.

If we asked, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Grandmother would recount the story of Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:8-16). And if our cousins inquired, "And who is my neighbor?" she would retell the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).

**The starting point for any important decision is the commandment, Love your neighbor as yourself.**

Before each of the recent presidential elections, the bishops of the United States have issued a call to political responsibility. While the bishops don't offer names of candidates to vote for as Granddad did, as spiritual leaders they do identify moral priorities for public life. Among the moral priorities mentioned in their

*Each year on Election Day, when she entered the voting booth, she would kick Granddad under the curtain and ask him who to vote for. Her system worked well until the year it happened that the man she had kicked under the curtain wasn't her husband!*

statement prior to the last election ([www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship/bishopstatement.html](http://www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship/bishopstatement.html)) were:

## **Protecting Human Life:**

Avoid abortion, euthanasia, human cloning, assisted suicide, war, the intentional targeting of civilians in war and the preemptive use of force. Strengthen barriers against the use of nuclear weapons, anti personnel landmines, and the global arms trade. Protect society against violence without resorting to the death penalty.

## **Promoting Family**

**Life:** Protect marriage as a lifelong commitment between a man and a woman. Ensure

just wages are paid to workers and generous aid is offered to poor families. Protect and nurture children. Ensure families are able to choose the education best suited for their children. Balance freedom of speech with the promotion of the common good when regulating the media.

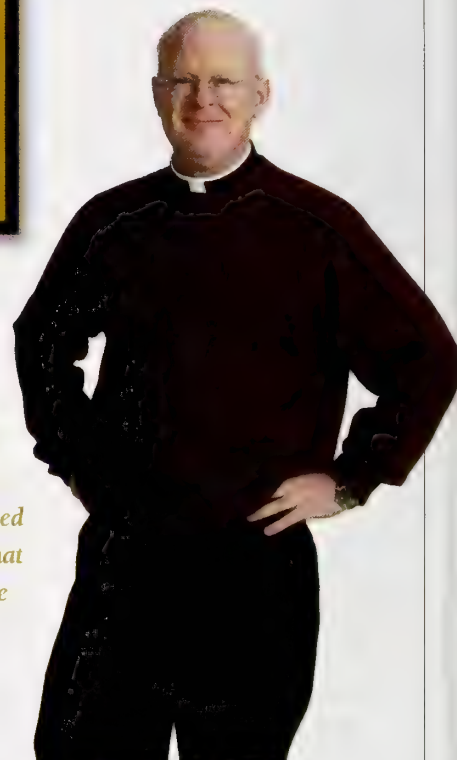
## **Pursuing Social Justice:**

Assess the impact of economic decisions on the dignity of the human person. Promote the creation of jobs with decent working conditions and adequate pay, overcome unjust discrimination, and protect the right of workers to unionize, protect economic freedom and

the right to private property. Reform welfare in ways that reduce poverty and promote greater responsibility rather than cutting resources and programs. Support affordable, accessible health care and housing.

**People who care deeply about providing health care or safe housing for the poor can differ over the best approach. And candidates are prone to making promises that are impossible to keep once the election is over.**

Support agricultural policies that offer food security for all, along with a decent return for farmers and justice for farm workers. Care for immigrants and address the root causes of migration. Address education issues, the "culture of violence,"





reform of the criminal justice system, care for the environment and practice global solidarity.

Contrary to what some pundits would have us believe, those priorities don't parallel the platform of either political party. As you noted, it is difficult to find a candidate whose position is consistent

with the Church's teaching on the sanctity of life. Considering the entire list of priorities offered by the bishops is even more challenging. And when we consider the complexity of some of these issues, the

task can be downright daunting. People who care deeply about providing health care or safe housing for the poor can differ over the best approach. And candidates are prone to making promises that are impossible to keep once the election is over.

### **It is possible to be a good citizen and a follower of Jesus.**

So what are we to do? The most important thing is not to give up. As good citizens and followers of Jesus we can and should:

- consider the needs of our neighbors, especially the weaker ones;
- identify all the key issues, not just the ones that affect us;
- identify important values (e.g., justice, respect for the dignity of every human life and peace);
- learn where the candidates stand on each of these issues;
- prayerfully consider your choices;
- vote in every election;
- stay in touch with elected officials to let them know what you expect.

As Christians, we are responsible for our neighbor. As citizens of a democracy we are responsible for choosing leaders who will attend to the needs of the weakest members of our society.

Thanks for asking. And good luck! I'll be praying for you on Election Day.

— Msgr. Steve Worsley, MD, STL, is Vice President of Mission and Ethics at St. Joseph Healthcare in New Hampshire.

### **Send your questions to:**

**"Since you asked ..."**

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

**Or:** reece@raldioc.org

From the Editor

## **Gentleness goes both ways**

I remember a day so long ago that the picture in my mind is faded. I couldn't have been more than 5. My younger brother and I were playing after lunch in our dusty backyard in Missouri when our grandmother, who was babysitting us, came to the back step in tears. They turned out to be tears of remorse: It was Friday, but she had forgotten the day and fed us hot dogs for lunch. In those days, eating meat on Fridays was a mortal sin, a sin my brother and I were too young to commit, but the guilt for which Granny, a devout Irish Catholic, now took upon herself.

This month, as we reflect in different ways on the fruits of the Holy Spirit we call kindness and gentleness, I'm reminded of my grandmother and many other wonderful, giving people I've known over the years who presented a sad paradox: Incredibly caring and tender with others, they could be harsh and unforgiving with themselves. Have you known anyone like this? Have you ever been anyone like this?

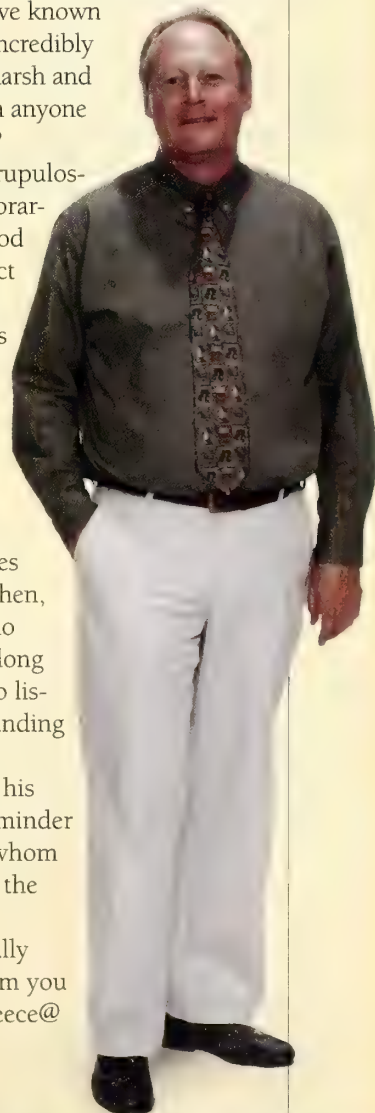
My grandmother had a simple spasm of scrupulosity that day, but I think many of us can temporarily forget that kindness and gentleness are good things, virtues, specifically because they reflect the nature of our Lord, who looks on every one of us, always, with the kind of tenderness the most loving parent lavishes on a child. We imitate that love best when we are as gentle with ourselves as we are with others.

Kindness and gentleness are certainly at the center of our cover story this month. Patty White, Carla Edwards and Gail Heider are nurses who help bring children, sometimes incredibly fragile children, into the world. When, tragically, a child is lost, these three women do their best to bring compassion and, over the long term, healing to the infants' bereft families. To listen to their stories is to gain a better understanding of grief and caring.

Fittingly, as Bishop Burbidge points out in his column, October is Respect Life month, a reminder to employ kindness and gentleness with all whom we encounter, from children in the womb to the very elderly.

Thank you for your many kind – and usually gentle – letters. I look forward to hearing from you at 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.

— Richard Reece is the editor of NC Catholics.







theologian  
of the month

**Augustine  
of Hippo**  
(354-430)

► **Aurelius Augustinus** was one of the pre-eminent theologians in the development of the Western church.

► **His teachings on salvation and grace** were cited by many Protestant reformers as they developed their systems of thought.

► **He was born in North Africa** to St. Monica, a Catholic and Patricius, a pagan.

► **Augustine himself was a Manichaeian and devoted to pleasure;** he had a 15-year illicit affair with a young woman who bore him a son. His famous prayer was "Lord, grant me chastity and continence, but not yet."

► **In 386, Augustine had a profound personal conversion experience,** and completely changed his life. He studied Platonic thought, which continued to influence him in many ways, created a monastic foundation and was ordained. Eventually, he was made bishop of Hippo.

Why does Jesus always refer to himself as the Son of Man, rather than the Son of God?

# Who is the Son of Man?

**T**his year, NCC is exploring Christology – the study of Jesus Christ. We asked several eminent seminary professors some questions about Jesus. Their answers are enlightening and thought-provoking.

**NCC: Why does Jesus always refer to himself as the Son of Man, rather than the Son of God? What does that mean?**

**Father Stevens:** Jesus identifies himself as the Son of Man rather than the Son of God. The concept of the son of God is not uniquely Jewish – it also reflects Oriental kingship and emperor worship. Why didn't Jesus then identify himself as the Messiah, as understood by the Jews? He was reluctant to adopt this due to its connotations of earthly glory and power. The concept of the Son of God is a way of speaking of David, and Jesus does align himself with that occasionally. He clearly does believe himself to be the Messiah.

## Meet the professors



Father Acklin



Father Muller



Father Stevens

► **Father Thomas Acklin** is a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa. He is a graduate of Duquesne University, St. Vincent Seminary, The Catholic University of Louvain and Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Institute.

► **Father Earl Muller** is The Bishop Kevin M. Britt Professor of Theology/Christology at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. He formerly taught at Marquette University in Wisconsin.

► **Father Gladstone Stevens** is vice rector of St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.



**Heresy!**

**Jesus as two persons? The heresy of Nestorianism**



Nestorius

►► **Mary – mother of God?** Nestorianists believed that Jesus was two persons: human and divine. With this teaching, we run into a problem with the crucifixion – who died on the cross? The heresy takes its name from Nestorius, a monk who became the patriarch of Constantinople and who denied the doctrine of theotokos – that Mary was the mother of God. In 431, the Council of Ephesus denounced this position and declared that Jesus had two distinct natures, human and divine, fully and inseparably present in one person. Nestorius was removed from his position as patriarch and exiled.

Nestorianism itself survived for several hundred more years.

The son of man is based on the mysterious figure from the Book of Daniel. Somehow, this figure's purpose is not to establish earthly rule, but to mediate. Jesus, the Son of Man and Son of God, bridges the gap between the world of God and the world of humanity.

ing, it did not mean what we now understand it to mean. It is rather a lot like our word "mankind," meaning all of humanity. The son of man is the name used in Ezekiel by God when he is addressing the prophet – thereby addressing all human beings.

The other meaning is found in the prophet Daniel, referring to the whole nation of Israel. The son of man comes as the

whole nation rising up to heaven, just like the dry bones in Ezekiel. Jesus speaks of himself in the third person as the Son of Man



**what does that symbol mean?**

**INRI and IHS**

►► **These letters are often seen as representative of Christ.** INRI stands for the first three letters of the name of Jesus in Greek. INRI are the first letters of the Latin inscription that was ordered placed on the cross by Pilate – "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews."

Jesus, the Son of Man and Son of God, **bridges the gap between the world of God and the world of humanity.**

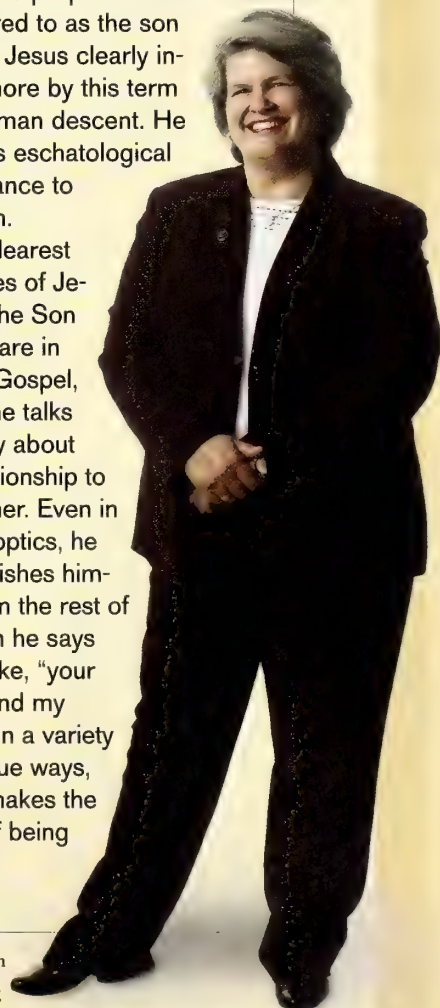
**Father Acklin:** The term "Son of God" could be used for angels, saints, holy persons and prophets. In Jewish understand-

to say "I." He sometimes silences those who call him by "Messiah" and "Son of God," preferring to call himself the Son of Man as suffering servant, whose suffering is for all people.

**Father Muller:** The term "son of man" is generally considered to be an allusion to Daniel, chapter 7. In that book, it appears to have the sense of Israel corporately being given dominion and authority. But from that time to the time of Jesus, the understanding of the term changed to apply to the personified nature of a messianic and eschatological figure. It is in this context that Jesus applies that term to himself. A number of Scripture scholars would have seen nothing more than the kind of reference that you would get in Ezekiel, where the prophet himself is referred to as the son of man. Jesus clearly intends more by this term than human descent. He attaches eschatological significance to the term.

The clearest examples of Jesus as the Son of God are in John's Gospel, where he talks explicitly about his relationship to the Father. Even in the synoptics, he distinguishes himself from the rest of us when he says things like, "your father and my father." In a variety of oblique ways, Jesus makes the claim of being the Son of God.

– Elizabeth Solsburg



**Bible Quiz**

**Queen of Persia – champion of dignity. Who am I?**



I am thought to be the granddaughter of King Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon – so I am royalty in my own right. Obviously, I deserved to be treated with respect – but my husband apparently didn't see it that way. His name was Ahasuerus and he was the king of a country many people think was Persia. But you know, that's up for debate. Ahasuerus never really treated me right

and the final straw came the night he was having a huge banquet for his so-called friends. I, of course, was not invited. But one of his servants came with a message – Ahasuerus wanted me to come to the banquet hall and "show my beauty" – his term for dancing naked for his guests. I refused and he cast me off like refuse to marry another. My story is told in her book – Esther. In the end, she got even with him in ways better than I could have imagined. **Who am I?**

►► Turn to page 30 for the answer



## From wealthy nobleman to servant of God

**Saint Francis Borgia**  
**Birthplace:** Gandia, Spain  
**Feast Day:** October 10  
**Patron of** Portugal

**Claim to Fame:** Francis Borgia was born in 1510 to an imperial family. He was the great-grandson of Pope Alexander VI and King Ferdinand of Aragon, as well as the cousin of Emperor Charles V. When he was 18, Francis served at court, and by 1530 he was Marquis of Llombay. Upon his father's death in 1543, Francis left the imperial court and became Duke of Gandia, quickly earning a reputation as one of Spain's most respected nobles. Meanwhile, he helped found a hospital and university for the Society of Jesus. After his beloved wife died, Francis gave up his public life and dedicated himself entirely to God's service. Providing for his eight children, he entered the Jesuits. But Francis would still be torn between his desire to live a quiet, secluded life, his public duty and his administrative ability.

**The Society of Jesus:** Francis did not seek advancement, but within three years, the Order's founder, St. Ignatius Loyola, asked Francis to become provincial head. In 1565, he became the superior general of the entire order. He moved to Rome and, under his leadership, the Jesuits attracted many recruits, established 20 colleges in Europe and began new missions in the Americas. Francis did so much to create the order's internal structure and further expansion that he is often referred to as the "second founder of the Jesuits." However, Francis worried that the many activities of the Jesuits might distract them from their religious purpose. To remind them of their dedication to Christ, he instituted a rule that each Jesuit must meditate for an hour each day.

**Best quote:** Although he was ill and exhausted, Francis obediently accompanied Pope Pius V's nephew on a mission to Spain and Portugal. As he entered Barcelona and Valencia, crowds converged in the streets, crying, "Where is the saint?"

**How he died:** A leader until the end, he died upon his return from his mission for Pope Pius V.

**Prayer:** Lord our God, you called St. Francis Borgia from a royal palace to be your servant. Grant through his prayers that all who have served you and renounced the world for you will not labor alone. We also aim to serve you through our efforts at work and at home. Please grant us the strength and humility that St. Francis Borgia had in answering your call to serve you. Amen.

—Jan Rynearson



**San Francisco de Borja**  
**Lugar de nacimiento:** Gandia, España  
**Día del santo:** 10 de octubre  
**Patrón de** Portugal

**Lo que lo hizo famoso:** Francisco Borja nació en una familia imperial en el año 1510. Era el tataranieta del Papa Alejandro VI y del Rey Fernando de Aragón y primo del Emperador Carlos V. A los 18 años comenzó a servir en la corte y en el año 1530 ya era marqués de Llombay. Al morir su padre en el año 1543, Francisco dejó la corte imperial y fue hecho duque de Gandia, ganándose rápidamente la reputación de ser uno de los nobles más respetados de España. Mientras tanto, él ayudó a fundar un hospital y una universidad para la Compañía de Jesús. Luego de la muerte de su querida esposa, Francisco abandonó la vida pública y se dedicó enteramente al servicio de Dios. Luego de asegurarles el sustento a sus ocho hijos, ingresa a la orden de los Jesuitas. Pero Francisco se debatía entre su deseo de vivir una vida tranquila y solitaria, sus obligaciones públicas y sus habilidades administrativas.

**La Compañía de Jesús:** Francisco no estaba abocado a recibir ascensos pero en tres años, el fundador de la orden, Ignacio de Loyola, le pidió a Francisco que fuera director provincial. Más tarde, en el 1565, fue nombrado Superior General de la totalidad de la orden. Se mudó a Roma y bajo su dirección los Jesuitas atrajeron a muchos nuevos miembros, establecieron 20 universidades en Europa y fundaron nuevas misiones en las Américas. Francisco hizo tanto para crear la estructura interna de la orden y expandirla que a menudo se lo conoce como "el segundo fundador de los Jesuitas." Sin embargo, a Francisco le preocupaba que las muchas actividades de los Jesuitas podían distraerlos de su propósito religioso. Para recordarles su dedicación a Cristo, él instituyó una regla que requería que todos los Jesuitas meditaran una hora todos los días.

**Su mejor cita:** Aunque estaba enfermo y exhausto, Francisco obedientemente acompañó al sobrino del Papa Pío V que partió en misión a España y Portugal. Al entrar a Barcelona y a Valencia, multitudes se congregaron en las calles gritando, "¿Dónde está el santo?"

**Forma en la que murió:** Siendo líder hasta el final, murió al volver de la misión que le había encomendado el Papa Pío V.

**Oración:** Señor, nuestro Dios, llamaste a Francisco de Borja de un palacio real para que fuera tu siervo. Concédenos a través de sus oraciones que todos los que te han servido renuncien al mundo solamente por ti. Nosotros también nos abocamos a servirte por medio de nuestras obras en el trabajo y en casa. Concédenos la fuerza y la humildad que San Francisco de Borja tenía al responder a tu llamado de servicio. Amén.



## Affirm our youth

**A**t the Aug. 4 Appreciation Banquet of the Office of African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge presented awards to various individuals and groups of people.

Among these groups were some youth who participate as Ambassadors of the Word. This outreach was founded by Father Chester and Father Charles Smith, who are twin brothers and members of the Society of the Divine Word. Ambassadors of the Word seeks to nurture young people and help them realize the value of participating in their church and community. It also seeks to provide an alternative forum for young people to develop as leaders who make a difference in their community. It does this through its programs, activities, workshops and retreats.

It also develops and implements innovative programs that build self-esteem, self confidence and self responsibility. The Ambassadors of the Word has a focus on education, careers and individual development. It uses Music Ministry, Dance Ministry and Word Ministry.

The young people who received the awards were those who were responsible in the ministry for prayer, ice breakers and group leadership. They are Trevor Calhoun and Gabrielle Mortis, both of St. Benedict Parish, Winston-Salem; Ebony Hagans of St. Mary Parish, Goldsboro; Shamiso Chikandura of Holy Cross, Durham; Nichelle Edwards, St. Joseph, Raleigh; and Christine Chapman, St. Ann, Fayetteville.

In addition, Shamiso Chikandura received the Rora Smith Award for outstanding leadership. Shamiso will attend UNC Chapel Hill and major in biology. She received a full academic scholarship from the university.

Maalim Chege received the Helen D. Cox Scholarship. Maalim is an outstanding young man who attends East Carolina University.

All of this should fill our hearts with joy. This demonstrates to us that there are fine, good young people in our midst whom we should affirm in any way that we can. I am sure that in the future they will give leadership in the Church and in the community.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden



## La Familia Hispana fortalecida en la Fe y la Tradición

**C**ada vez que llega el mes de octubre recordamos la celebración de la hispanidad; todas las festividades recuerdan la delicia de la comida, la variedad de los bailes y la riqueza de las culturas.

Este año, más que nunca la celebración tiene un cierto vacío, por el fracaso de un proyecto de ley que daría una reforma migratoria para brindar una estabilidad a tantos migrantes que habitan en nuestra comunidad.

Pero nuestra celebración es un signo de fe que nos recuerda en quién hemos puesto nuestra esperanza, que en medio de tanto sinsabor Dios sigue haciendo brillar los dones y las gracias de un pueblo humilde, con valores que dan lecciones de fortaleza. Un gran valor es la familia, que en medio de la pobreza sabe conjugar la amabilidad y la gentileza del amor por su familia, con la rudeza y la constancia del trabajo, haciendo del hogar la mejor expresión de una Iglesia que peregrina por el mundo llevando el mensaje de la verdadera vida.

En la familia se conjugan las riquezas del compartir, del servir, del perdonar, del respeto y del compromiso común para buscar el bienestar de todos los miembros. En la familia los padres se hacen educadores de sus hijos con la gentileza de respetar el proceso de cada hijo para poder aprender, vivir y seguir creciendo. Los mismos padres acogen a sus hijos con la amabilidad del amor, para respetar su vida y reconocerlos como un regalo de Dios y una responsabilidad de ayudarlos a crecer en el amor, la vida y el servicio.

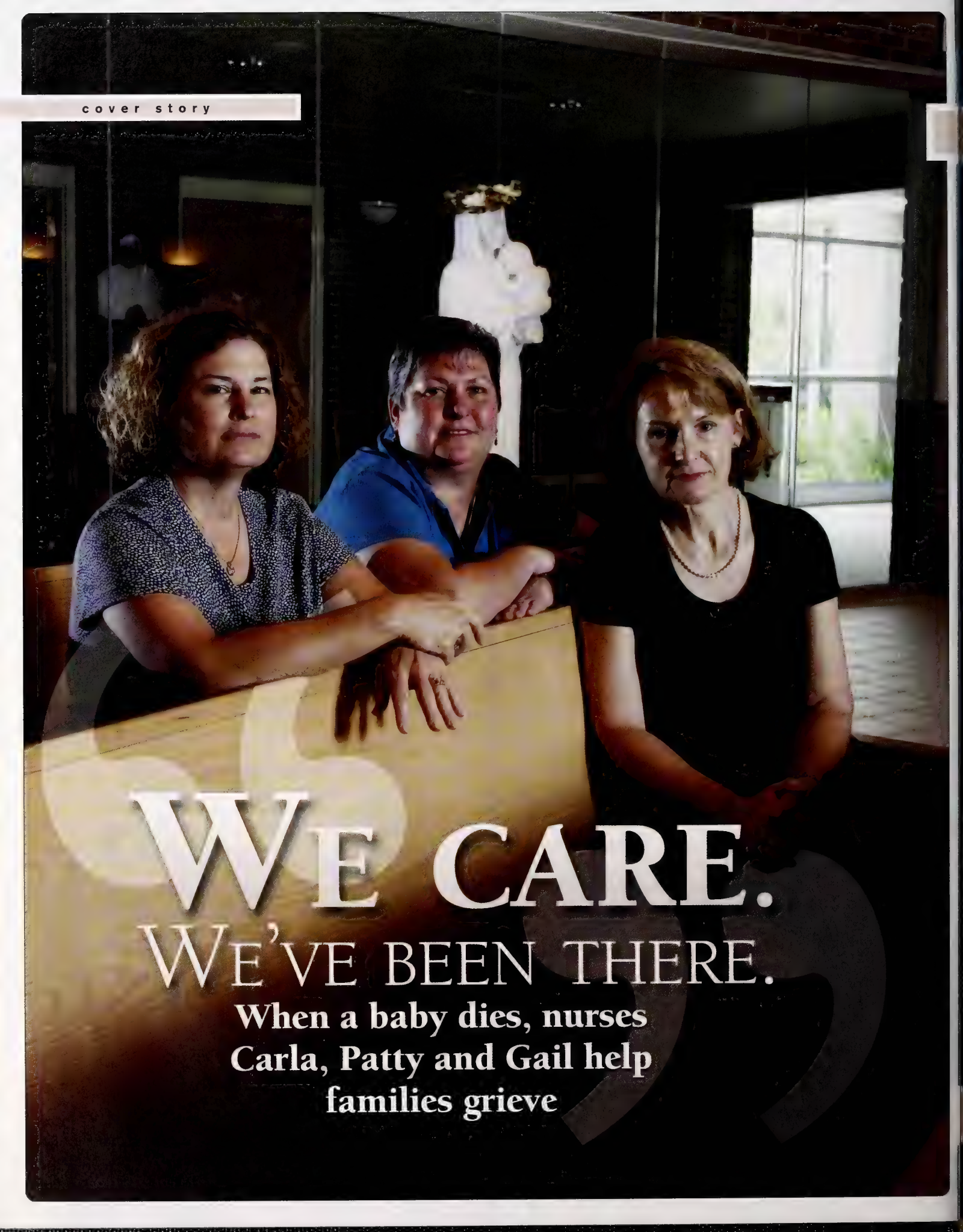
En la familia también se ayuda a cada uno de los miembros de esta comunidad a pertenecer a una fe. Y este don se trasmite a través de una tradición llena de conocimiento, de celebraciones y de valores que se reflejan en la ternura de ser amados, de ser servidos y de aprender a responder con estos valores a cada prójimo que comparte la vida con nosotros.

Vivamos este mes, pidiendo a Dios que bendiga a la familia, su fe y sus tradiciones, para que la sociedad pueda reconocer el derecho y la necesidad que tienen las familias para crecer en el amor, en la fe y en la esperanza.

— Padre Fernando Torres





A photograph of three women, identified as nurses Carla, Patty, and Gail, sitting at a light-colored wooden table in what appears to be a hospital or clinical setting. The woman on the left has curly brown hair and is wearing a patterned short-sleeved shirt. The woman in the middle has short dark hair and is wearing a blue polo shirt. The woman on the right has short reddish-brown hair and is wearing a black short-sleeved shirt. They are all looking towards the camera with serious expressions. In the background, there are large windows and a white decorative object on a stand.

cover story

# WE CARE. WE'VE BEEN THERE.

**When a baby dies, nurses  
Carla, Patty and Gail help  
families grieve**



*By Rich Reece | Pictures by EW Photography*

In 1985, Gail Heider, a labor and delivery nurse at a large Midwestern hospital, was expecting her third child. Five weeks before her due date, the baby died. "We were in complete shock," she recalls. "There hadn't been any problems with previous pregnancies." The hospital had no support system in cases of stillbirth. "We had to cope in our own way," Gail explains, "and our actions made some of the hospital staff uncomfortable. But we held him, bathed him and took his picture."

That sad event, Gail says, "changed my life, and it changed that hospital, and I give my son credit for that." Other women at the hospital came forward with their own experiences of losing infants, years before, and not even being allowed to see them. As a result, the hospital began a bereavement program for families affected by perinatal loss – infant death during or shortly after pregnancy and delivery. ►



**T**oday Gail is part of a team of three Catholic nurses at Wilmington's New Hanover Regional Medical Center (NHRMC) who support families dealing with actual or imminent fetal or infant death. Her teammates are Carla Edwards, a labor and delivery nurse, and Patty White, who works in the hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Like Gail, Carla and Patty came to bereavement ministry as a result of their own experiences of loss. Carla suffered four miscarriages. Patty lost her infant son, Sam, in 1993 due to a heart defect.

"I was angry," Patty remembers, "angry at God. What had I done to deserve this? What had I done wrong? But I learned that I didn't deserve it. It was something that happened, and it was up to me to decide what to do with it."

"I see now that it was God's way of leading me down a new path that I would not have chosen. I don't know that I would be doing this work if Sam hadn't come into our lives and made this huge difference. Fourteen years after he died, he still makes a difference every day of my life. And through the work we do, he impacts the lives of others."

The bereavement program at NHRMC is called Resolve Through Sharing (RTS); the model originated in La Crosse, Wis., and is replicated in hospitals across the country. Team members

**"I don't know that I would be doing this work if Sam hadn't come into our lives. ... Fourteen years after he died, he still makes a difference every day of my life. And through the work we do, he impacts the lives of others."**

carry beepers 24/7 so they can be summoned in emergencies. And they follow up with bereaved families for a year or more after the event, sending cards, meeting outside the hospital, checking to see how the family is making the transition through the grieving process. In addition, Patty and Carla conduct classes for other professionals at the hospital, including chaplains and new resident physicians, on helping families deal with the shock, sadness and bewilderment that accompany the loss of a baby.

"Really, all the people who see these patients are part of the team," Carla says. "We try to show them how to help families with whatever they need at the moment. Pictures, memory boxes,

bathing and even dressing the baby if that's what the family needs. Baptism or blessing. There are still people who are extremely uncomfortable with what we do – 'You photograph a deceased infant?' – but in the wake of this thing that has happened these are the only decisions you are able to make. Anything the mother

and father can do to be parents at this moment will help them eventually work through their grief better."

"Sometimes the loss is so emotional," Patty says, "that caregivers' first reaction is to avoid much contact. We emphasize how important that contact is."

"And what to say, what not



## Resources

**RTS.** In Wilmington, an infant loss support group meets on the third Wednesday of each month. For more information, contact Patty White at [patty.white@nhhn.org](mailto:patty.white@nhhn.org).





► "Sometimes the loss is so emotional, that caregivers' first reaction is to avoid much contact. We emphasize how important that contact is."

to say," Carla adds. "You say, 'I'm sorry.' You tell the truth about what's happened, what to expect. You don't say, 'Your baby is in heaven.' You don't say, 'You can have another baby,' because you don't know."

"This particular child is irreplaceable," Patty says. "You need to grieve this child, even if you have 10 more. You need to make as many memories of him or her as you can. Our staff tries to offer as many options as possible."

"Listening is important, too," Gail adds. "So often, the family is in shock. There are things going on clinically as well as emotionally; they may be bombarded with information at the same time as their ability to process it is impaired. Instead of talk, they need a lot of very gentle nurturing through this phase."

The loss of a baby, grief counselors know, can have an adverse affect on a couple. "Men and women grieve differently," Carla says. "So he may not know how to accept her emotions, while she may think his not expressing grief outwardly means he's not as affected by

#### readings

**Psalms 138:13-14**  
You formed my inmost being,  
You knit me in my mother's womb. I praise You, so wonderfully You made me;  
Wonderful are Your works!

**Psalms 71:5-6**  
For You are my hope, O Lord;  
my trust, O God from my youth.  
On You I depend from birth.  
From my mother's womb You are my strength.  
Constant has been my hope in You.

**Psalms 4:8**  
In peace I shall both lie down and sleep,  
For you alone, Lord, make me secure.

their child's death. Meanwhile he's thinking that he's supposed to be the 'strong partner,' even though he's torn up inside. Couples need to work hard to understand each other's feelings, to keep the communication lines open, and to realize that at no given time are they necessarily going to feel the same."

"Sometimes," Patty adds, "in an effort to be comforting, someone will say, 'Well, at least you have each other.' But we always tell couples that you need other resources as well, a chaplain, maybe, or a caring friend."

The experience of having a friend like that motivates many women who have suffered the loss of a baby to "pay it forward." Patty recalls a couple she met eight years ago, who still keep in touch with her. Their baby, born very prematurely, was on a ventilator in the NICU. "I'd see them every day," Patty recalls. "The baby was very sick, and died after two weeks. The family was Catholic, and my daughters were altar servers at the service for their child at St. Mary's. Afterwards

they started a support group in Jacksonville for parents who had lost infants. The lady has had two children since then, but they never forget that one, and she is pursuing RTS training."

Carla remembers another mother she worked with about a year ago: "She was very angry at first. She could not figure out why her baby had

died, and sometimes you never do find out. We had long talks about it. A couple of weeks ago, though, she came by to tell me that an aunt, who had been a great comfort to her during her bereavement, had gone through a death in the family. 'I don't think I would have been able to comfort her if this

hadn't happened to me,' she said. 'I was able to be there for her.' She's training as a nurse now."

Patty, Carla and Gail agree. As Gail puts it: "When I lost my son, God opened a door I would never have wanted open. I would never have chosen to go through that pain. But it was a tremendous growth experience, and so many people supported me that I would never have expected. I have no regrets."



**"I would never have chosen to go through that pain. But it was a tremendous growth experience, and so many people supported me that I would never have expected. I have no regrets."**



**Share Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support, Inc.**  
[www.nationalshareoffice.com/contact\\_request\\_info.shtml](http://www.nationalshareoffice.com/contact_request_info.shtml). Share will send a packet containing information regarding the emotional issues of pregnancy loss, a listing of support groups in your area, the Share Bereavement Resources catalog and a copy of the Sharing newsletter. The information packet is free to bereaved parents. Share offers the newsletter to bereaved parents free of charge for a one year subscription.

**The Compassionate Friends** [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org) assists families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others be supportive. Their Web site includes a locator for local



chapters.  
**Empty Cradle** [www.emptycradle.org](http://www.emptycradle.org) is a non-sectarian, non-profit parent support group composed entirely of volunteers.



El pueblo del  
que hablaba

# Jesús

**L**a pequeña, pero pintoresca iglesia de María, Reina de las Américas, la más reciente parroquia de la Diócesis de Raleigh, es simplemente hermosa. Detrás de la entrada principal de 2 metros de alto, enmarcada en verde, dorado, baldosas azules y de fachada roja, es una estructura dividida en secciones, siendo el techo sobre el altar, la parte más elevada. La edificación fue dedicada en 1999, pero celebró Misa por primera vez, hace diez años para la comunidad Hispana.

El Padre John Williams fue pastor de la Immaculate Conception en Clinton en 1989. Comentó que “la planta procesadora Carolina Turkey estaba reclutando trabajadores de México y Guatemala,” “y aportaron un estacionamiento para remolques para 40 familias, cerca de la planta para sus empleados.” Al principio, el Padre Williams celebraba la Misa en los remolques o al aire libre. En 1992, el gerente general de la planta (cuya tía es monja) otorgó un permiso a la comunidad para utilizar una cabaña de cazador dentro de las instalaciones durante temporadas de clima inclemente. La edificación todavía existe, y luego se convertiría en el centro de la misión por siete años. En diciembre de 1994, en un artículo del

periódico NC Catholic, el Padre Williams describió la primera Misa de Gallo de la comunidad en la Casita: “El lugar estaba sucio y muy desalentador; no se pudo limpiar ni decorar el lugar, luego se perdió una llave y tuvimos un problema de comunicación, el líder que supuestamente estaba encargado de todo, se fue. Cuando yo llegué, la congregación estaba esperando a la intemperie, bajo el frío inclemente. No teníamos nada listo, no había tan siquiera

una flor para decorar”

“Una antigua grabadora se atascó sin razón aparente y lamentablemente, esta herramienta para tocar música instrumental de navidad nunca funcionó. Tuvimos muchos problemas para cantar Adeste Fideles en español y una calefacción primitiva de gas jamás encendió.

“Muchas cosas mas de las que podría escribir salieron mal. Entonces, justo antes del sermón, se me ocurrió que los ingredientes de esta improbable situación casi semejabán la natividad de Jesús... en nuestro propio lugar, se nos brindó el privilegio de percibir la pobreza de Belén.”

Sin embargo, todo mejoraría pronto. La hermana Joan Jurski, conjunto con los voluntarios de “Young Neighbors in Action” repararon y pintaron la edificación, que se otorgó a la comunidad,



## Maria, Reina de las Américas

Posada hace tres años y se instaló como el primer pastor de la nueva parroquia. El describe a su rebaño como "económicamente pobres, pero ricos en talento, fe y amor por Dios, la Iglesia y el servicio." La parroquia no tiene personal contratado; desde la limpieza, las reparaciones, cortar el césped, es hecho por los voluntarios.

El Padre Edgar describe el rápido crecimiento de la comunidad de inmigrantes, con los retos de la pastoral y de materiales que implica el crecimiento. La parroquia no tiene casa parroquial, a pesar de haber celebrado más de 40 bodas y más de 100 comuniones al año, no cuenta con un salón. El pastor señala que la construcción es costosa, pero "no me preocupo mucho por eso. Tengo fe que la gente de la Diócesis orará por nosotros y creo que Dios proveerá lo que necesitamos para hacer Su trabajo"

Ese trabajo, de acuerdo con el Padre Edgar, es para ser una comunidad evangelizadora y de apoyo. "Queremos difundir la misión de la renovación carismática, y la alegría del Espíritu Santo a través de la Diócesis. Queremos apoyar a cada uno, material y económicamente, como una familia, en especial desde que muchos de nuestros miembros han sido separado de sus familias en otros países." Muchas iglesias de otras religiones tratan de llenar este aspecto, ofreciendo comida y asistencia a los

inmigrantes, "pero nosotros además tenemos el Pan de la Vida"

El Padre Edgar concluye diciendo: "Pienso que jamás había trabajado ante gente tan humilde y me llena de mucha alegría. Cuando Jesús habló de gente humilde, pienso que se refería a personas como estas."

la cual lleva por nombre Posada Guadalupana. En 1999, la nueva iglesia, designada por su arquitectura Mexicana, capta la esencia del espacio sagrado que los inmigrantes están acostumbrados en sus "lugares de origen," construida en terreno donado



**"Cuando Jesús habló de gente humilde, pienso que se refería a personas como estas."**

por la planta Carolina Turkey. La edificación fue construida por un préstamo y un regalo de la Diócesis, al igual que por regalos de Catholic Extension Society.

El Padre Edgar Sepúlveda, originario de Colombia y previo Vicario Parroquia de St. Mary, Mt Olive, comenzó el ministerio de la

Por Rich Reece

## what in the world? the top-10 Catholic News events this month

**1 www.VaticanState.va**  
The Vatican can now be visited online. Vatican City is the smallest independent state in the world in terms of inhabitants and size. It occupies an area of more than 10 acres. The site is available in five languages.

**2 Week of prayer for Christian unity**  
"Pray Without Ceasing," is the week's theme. The event, which is being held for the 100th time, will be Jan. 18-25, 2008.

**3 World Youth Day**  
Individual registration is now available. Accommodations and meal packages for the six-day event also can be purchased.

**4 Holy Father met Scouts**  
The pope did so in a celebration marking the 100th anniversary of the Scouts' founding.

**5 First female president**  
The church in India welcomes the election of Pratibha Patil, the country's first female president.

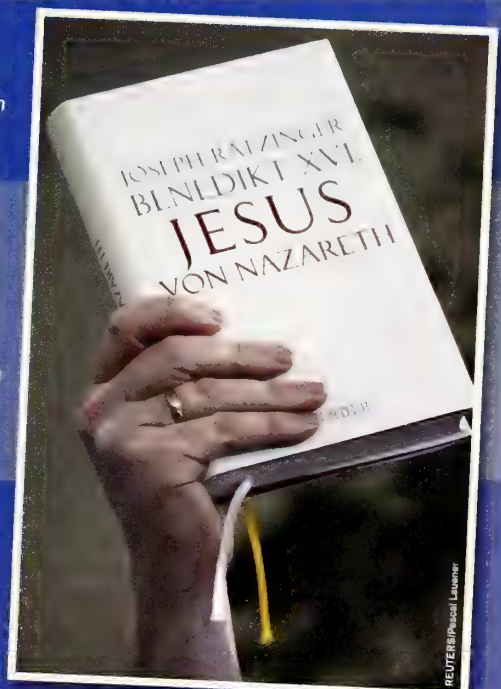
**6 Four priests arrested in China**  
About 15 priests and multiple laypeople are also jailed. All of them are accused of refusing to join the state-condoned official "Catholic" Church of China, the Patriotic Association.

**7 A best-seller**  
Benedict XVI's *Jesus of Nazareth* is a favorite in France.

**8 Austria ready for pope**  
Benedict XVI plans to visit in September to commemorate the 850th anniversary of the shrine of Mariazell.

**9 U.S. bishops discuss with Democrats**  
The U.S. bishops will meet with a group of Catholic House Democrats to discuss a responsible transition to end the war in Iraq.

**10 Bishops welcome nurses freed from Libya**  
Bulgarian bishops are pleased with the liberation of five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor who were wrongly accused of intentionally infecting Libyan children with the virus that causes AIDS.





**¿A quién le doy mi voto?** Es difícil conseguir candidato alguno que comparta la idea de vida y sea completamente consistente con las enseñanzas de la iglesia católica.

**E**sta es una pregunta a la cual mi abuela tenía la respuesta perfecta. Cada año, durante las elecciones, una vez dentro de la cabina de votación, ella siempre le daba un puntapié a mi abuelo por debajo de la cortina para preguntarle por quién votar. El sistema funcionó de maravilla, hasta que un día, le dio un puntapié a un hombre distinto a su esposo. No se si alguna vez tuviste la oportunidad de conocer a la abuela; ella vivió en Greenville, pero con tu pregunta, puedes entender claramente la moral de su historia. Todos nosotros necesitamos analizar a quien le vamos a dar nuestro voto antes de llegar al lugar de sufragio.

Lo que la abuela no dice, pero con seguridad lo habría dicho, es que nuestra fe debe guiarnos en todas las decisiones que tomemos el día de las elecciones, así como la fe nos guía en nuestras acciones día a día. El punto de partida en cada decisión es el mandamiento de amar al prójimo y a nosotros mismos. Los estrategias de campañas asumen con frecuencia que votaremos a favor de nuestros propios intereses. Sin embargo, para los seguidores de Jesús, Abraham o Mohammad, no es suficiente fijarnos solo en nuestros intereses individuales.

Si preguntamos, "¿Acaso soy yo el que debe cuidar a mi hermano?" la abuela contaría la historia de Cain y Abel (Génesis 4:8-16) y si nuestros primos preguntan "¿Y quién es mi prójimo?", ella contaría la historia del Buen Samaritano (Luke 10:25-37)

**El punto de partida en cada decisión es el mandamiento de amar a nuestros vecinos y a nosotros mismos.**

Antes de cada una de las recientes elecciones presidenciales, los Obispos de los Estados Unidos han emitido un llamado a la responsabilidad política. A pesar de que los Obispos no ofrecen nombres específicos de los candidatos a votar como lo hizo el abuelo, los guías espirituales le dan prioridad a la moral en la vida pública. Entre la prioridad moral mencionada en declaraciones posteriores en las últimas elecciones están:

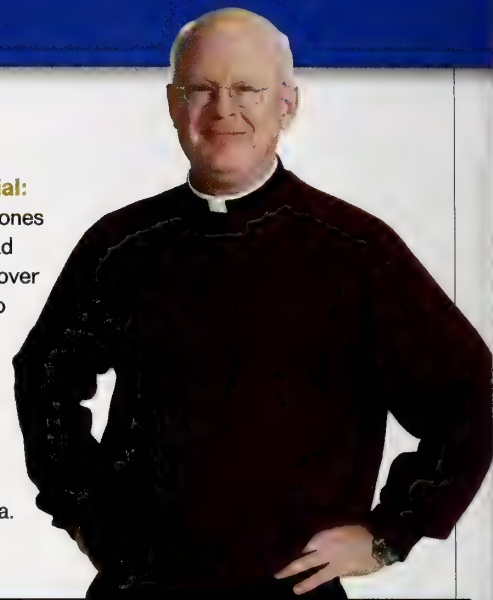
**Proteger la vida humana:** Evitar el aborto, la eutanasia, la clonación, el suicidio asistido, la guerra, la utilización de civiles como blancos de guerras, y el uso de la fuerza. El fortalecimiento de barreras utilizadas en contra de armas de destrucción masiva, minas antipersonales y el comercio global de armamento. Proteger a la sociedad de la violencia sin recurrir a la pena de muerte.

**Promover la vida entre familia:** Proteger el matrimonio como un compromiso eterno entre el hombre y la mujer. Asegurar un salario justo a los trabajadores y ofrecer ayuda a familias pobres. Proteger y alimentar a los niños. Asegurarse que las familias puedan elegir la educación mas apta para sus hijos. Equilibrar la libertad de expresión con la promoción de sentido común al regular algún medio de comunicación.

#### Trabajar por la justicia social:

Calcular el impacto de las decisiones económicas en base a la dignidad humana de cada persona. Promover la creación de puestos de trabajo con buenas condiciones de trabajo y paga adecuada, superar la discriminación injusta, proteger el derecho de los trabajadores a crear sindicatos, proteger la libertad económica y el derecho a la propiedad privada.

Reformar el seguro social de manera que reduzca la pobreza



Ya que usted lo pregunta...  
Este mes con el Monseñor Steve Worsley

y promueva más responsabilidad, pero sin eliminar recursos o programas. Apoyar un programa de salud al alcance de todos y viviendas. Apoyar políticas de agricultura que ofrezca seguridad de alimentos para todos, en conjunto con justicia para los agricultores. Brindar atención a los inmigrantes y localizar la raíz de la causa de la emigración. Tratar los asuntos de educación, la "cultura de la violencia", reforma del sistema de justicia criminal, cuidado del medio ambiente y practicar la solidaridad global. De lo contrario a lo que muchos expertos nos han hecho creer, estas prioridades no van en paralelo con la plataforma de los partidos políticos. Es muy difícil conseguir candidatos cuya posición sea consistente con las enseñanzas de la iglesia en lo sagrado de la vida humana.

Cuando consideramos la complejidad de alguno de estos asuntos, la tarea puede ser desalentadora. Las personas que están profundamente comprometidas en proveer un sistema de salud o viviendas seguras al más necesitado, pueden diferir ante el mejor de los enfoques y los candidatos están propensos a prometer lo imposible hasta que terminen las elecciones.

**Es posible ser un buen ciudadano y un seguidor de Jesús.**

Entonces, ¿qué hacemos?

- Considera las necesidades del prójimo, especialmente, los más vulnerables.
- Identifica todos los problemas importantes, no solo los que nos afectan a nosotros.
- Identifica los principios fundamentales (justicia, respeto por la dignidad humana y paz)
- Estudia cual es la postura de cada candidato en estas áreas
- Considera tus opciones
- Vota en cada elección
- Mantente en contacto con las autoridades electas para que les indiques tus expectativas

Como cristianos, nosotros somos responsables por el prójimo. Como ciudadanos en democracia, somos responsables por escoger líderes que atiendan las necesidades de los miembros más vulnerables de nuestra sociedad.

¡Gracias por preguntar y buena suerte! Estaré orando por ustedes el día de las elecciones.

— El Monseñor Steve Worsley, MD, STL es Vicepresidente de la misión de ética del centro de salud St. Joseph en New Hampshire.



# Rindamos tributo a la vida

“

te he dado a elegir entre la vida y la muerte... Elige, pues, la vida, para que vivan tú y tus descendientes. Ama al Señor tu Dios, obedécelo y sé fiel a él, porque de él depende tu vida...”

...

(Deuteronomio 30:19-20)

La Iglesia en los Estados Unidos designó el 7 de octubre como el domingo para respetar la vida. Este día, es la oportunidad ideal para rendirnos tributo como pueblo celebrante, defensor de la vida; encontrándola a través de Jesucristo.

**Celebremos la vida.** Pro-vida significa reconocer que todas las personas fueron creadas a la imagen y semejanza de Dios, considerando que la vida es sagrada, desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural. Reconocemos que el Espíritu Santo habita en cada uno de nosotros y estamos sinceramente agradecidos por cada uno de nosotros. Consideramos cada día como un regalo irrepetible.

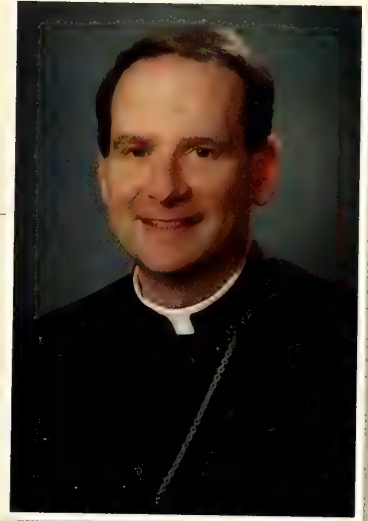
**Preservemos la vida:** El Segundo consejo del Vaticano destacó la necesidad que tiene nuestro mundo de profetas valientes que hablen y actúen en el nombre de la vida. “cualquiera que se oponga a la vida misma... cualquiera que viole la integridad del ser humano... cualquiera que insulte la dignidad del ser humano... donde las personas son tratadas como meros instrumentos para la obtención un beneficio y no como personas libres y responsables... todos estos factores entre otros más, contaminan la sociedad del ser humano y son una absoluta deshonra para el Creador”

La temática de este año para nuestra revista de la diócesis, enfatiza la necesidad de bondad y gentileza; la preservación de la vida requiere de dichas cualidades. Sin embargo, la gentileza y la bondad no son sinónimos de debilidad. A fin de convertirse en fuerzas poderosas para preservar la vida, los demás deben ver reflejados en nosotros el rostro de Cristo, ya que fuimos enviados en Su nombre. Nosotros hablamos con valentía y consistencia la verdad, pero siempre en espíritu de compasión, respetando la dignidad de los seres humanos.

Debemos aprovechar las oportunidades que nos brindan nuestra Diócesis y las diversas parroquias de actuar en nombre de la vida. Espero que asistan al Maratón por la Vida en Raleigh el sábado 12 de enero de 2008. Conviértanse en parte del contingente de Raleigh el 22 de enero de 2008 para la Marcha por la Vida en Washington DC. El maratón y la marcha se llevarán a cabo con espíritu de unidad. Estas congregaciones, son fuerzas poderosas en nombre de la protección de la vida humana.

**Encontremos vida:** En este mundo tan complicado, el trabajo de proteger y defender lo sagrado de toda vida humana puede ser abrumante, y ese será el caso si solo confiamos en nuestros propios recursos. Aun así, no debemos desesperarnos, porque en nuestro Salvador encontramos vida. Somos creyentes que amamos al Señor nuestro Dios, obedézcanslo y séanle fiel a él, porque de él dependen sus vida. ¡Celebramos en Palabra y Sacramento la victoria de Jesús de la vida sobre la muerte! Especialmente en la Eucaristía, que nos da fuerzas, nos consuela, y nos brinda la motivación que necesitamos. ¡A través de él, con él y en él, la vida siempre triunfará!

A medida que viajo por ésta Diócesis, encuentro el gran compromiso por la vida a través del ejemplo y testimonio de innumerables personas. Por medio de la intercesión de María Nuestra Madre y la divina ayuda de su Hijo, siempre celebremos el preciado regalo de la vida, la protección de los sagrado de la vida humana y el descubrimiento de una vida nueva en Dios el Padre creador, en Su Hijo Jesús, el Pan de la Vida que nos sustenta y la guía del Espíritu Santo en todos nuestros esfuerzos ahora y siempre.







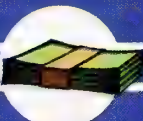
## romance



## Romance

►► Nothing says "I love you" like an **"attitude of gratitude."** Try not to take your spouse or any daily kindnesses for granted. It turns any ordinary day into an extraordinary one. End each day together with a prayer of thanksgiving.

## money



## Pay off the plastic

►► We've all heard this one before, but it bears repeating. Credit card debt can suck your accounts dry. Pay off high-interest credit cards as quickly as possible. If you can't, at least transfer the debt to a lower-interest card and make payments but not purchases until you whittle away at the amount you owe.

**A**my and Michael have been married for two years. Amy is concerned that Michael flirts too much – Michael says he's "just looking."

## He flirts with other women.

## she says

We were at a party the other night, and Michael spent all his time chatting with the most beautiful woman in the room, whom he clearly did not think was I. This happens all the time – whenever we are out with friends, Michael charms the prettiest woman there. And I feel invisible. Whenever I've talked with him about how I feel, he always says something smart-aleck, like "It's OK to window shop as long as you buy at home."

## Amy says:

We were at a party the

## I'm just being friendly.

## he says

**Michael says:** I think Amy is making a mountain out of a molehill. Sure, I like to look at pretty girls – what red-blooded man doesn't? But Amy is the one I love, and I have always been faithful to her. Regarding the party she's talking about, what's the point of going if you aren't going to talk to new people? If that's a problem for Amy, maybe she should stay home.

## experts say

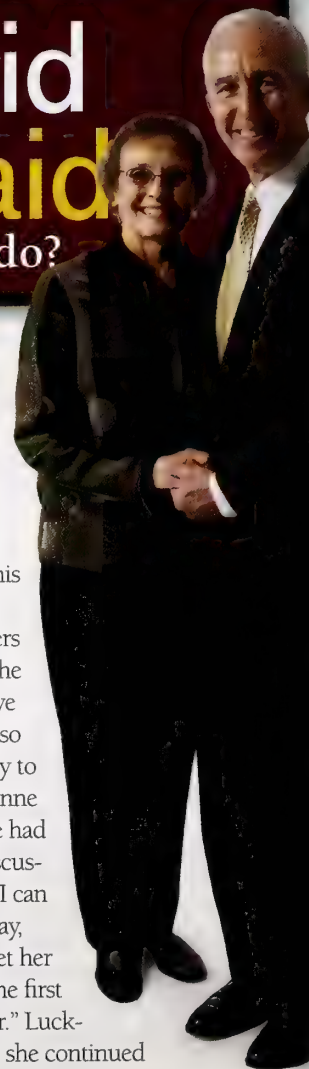
I think that it is obvious that Michael needs to make a trip to the optometrist for



# He said She said what do they do?

a new pair of glasses if he can't tell that his wife is the most beautiful person in the room! Jo Anne believes Michael's insensitivity is surpassed only by his immaturity. OK, now that we have shown our biases in Amy's favor, let's view this situation in greater detail. We both agree that Michael exhibits the behavior of someone who doesn't know how to address feelings. He appears to have little respect for Amy or their marriage. As parents, we have this unrealistic belief that all who are old enough and declare their intent to be married have a level of maturity that would preclude childish behavior. Obviously, Michael has again proven us wrong. It is also evident to us that Michael, not surprisingly given his exhibited behavior and comments, doesn't get the message Amy is trying to send! In that

respect, we can't be too hard on Michael because he is not alone in this – sometimes others don't get the message we are trying so desperately to send. Jo Anne and I have had similar discussions and I can honestly say, "I didn't get her message the first time either." Luckily for me, she continued





## resources

**Attention all married couples:**

►► Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers married couples the opportunity to get away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and spend a weekend focused on their relationship. The Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is for couples who have a good relationship, but are interested in making it even better! The weekend is presented by other married couples who discovered something special on their own WWME weekend and believe it is worth passing on. The next weekend in the Raleigh Diocese is Nov. 3-5 in Atlantic Beach, NC. There is also a weekend in the Charlotte Diocese in Hickory, NC on Sept. 21-23. To register for a weekend or for more information, please visit our website at [www.wwme-nc.info](http://www.wwme-nc.info). You can also call or email Joe & Linda Costine at 919.553.8693 or [wmeregister@yahoo.com](mailto:wmeregister@yahoo.com).

to express her desire for us to be together at social events and to have fun together. I finally heard what she was saying to me and, ever since then, we have enjoyed the events much more because we are making memories together. We are experiencing the same activities and participating in the same events as a married couple and not as married singles.

Through the years, we have been fairly selective in attending social and even family events. Those that permit us to be a couple, participating in the same conversations and activities, are high on our list to attend. In retrospect, those are the times we have enjoyed the most. Those events that have the ladies in one corner and the men in another corner, figuratively speaking, each with their own "exclusive" territory, fosters separation of spouses and not the growing together as a couple we are called to become. Taken to the extreme, it can lead to behavior that builds barriers instead of removing barriers.

When your spouse is your best friend, your soul mate, the one with whom you wish to spend the rest of your life, why would you ever wish to be apart? It is not about making new friends with the opposite gender, it is about becoming one with your spouse. It is quite possible that Michael may need additional help in understanding what his role is in a marriage and how to go about treating Amy. One place Michael and Amy could turn to is Scripture. In reading the New Testament, we would recommend you focus on how Jesus treats his spouse – the church.

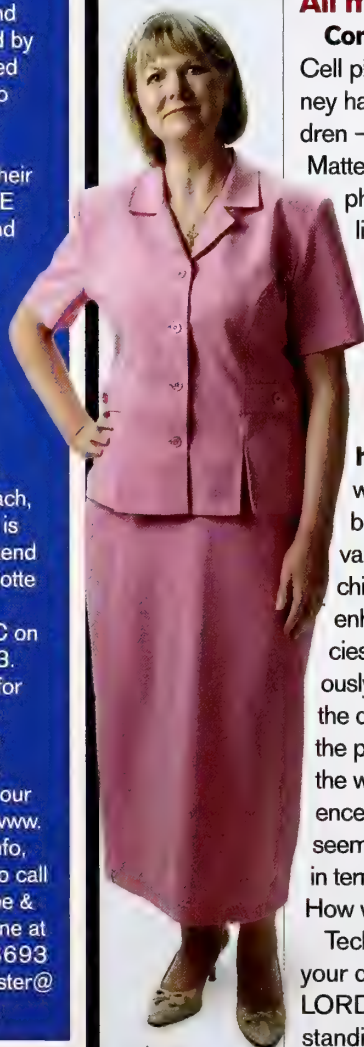
Jo Anne had a final note for Michael: Not all "red-blooded men" behave in the manner you think. Teenage boys do, but not mature men.

– Tom and Jo Anne Fogle

## "Can you hear me now?"

### When should kids have cell phones?

**Do children need cell phones to stay in touch? What factors should parents consider when making this decision?**



**W**hen I was growing up, it was easy for Mole Hole Club members to stay in touch. My friend, Penn, created our signature call: ooh-ooh, ooh-ooh, oooooh-ooooh-oooooooooh! We projected our voices so that the call could be heard not only on Del Valle Avenue, but all the way over to nearby streets. Club members and tag-along siblings would come running to the huge tree that marked our gathering spot. We might play freeze-tag or statue-maker. Maybe we would decide to dig holes at our secret fort. When it was time for our fun to end, most moms just stood on front porches calling out our names.

**Keeping in touch with friends and family is an essential part of childhood, generation after generation.** But technology leads to interesting questions. Do children need cell phones to stay in touch? What factors should parents consider when making this decision?

#### **All my friends have cell phones!**

##### **Companies hope parents will yield to this refrain!**

Cell phone marketing has hit the grade-school set – hard. Disney has a Web site for its "Disney mobile™" phones for children – its ring tones include songs from *Beauty and the Beast!* Mattel's MyScene™ Mobile has a "reward board" to integrate phone use with behavior. Its ads say, "Just go online, set a list of chores, which can include making the bed, finishing homework or not arguing with your brother or sister and place stars on the completed tasks. At the end of the week or month, parents can buy extra minutes according to the child's list of completed tasks."

#### **Beyond the status symbol**

**As a parent, we need to examine the reasons behind the purchase decision.** Talking to friends as a reward for finishing homework or engaging in other expected behaviors is counterproductive. But, would there be an advantage to having more parent-child access? Whatever the child's age, consider the benefits. For example, a phone may enhance the safety of teen drivers in cases of road emergencies. Also look at drawbacks. Many adolescents talk continuously while driving, increasing their risks. Think carefully about the developmental level of your child. How will you respond if the phone is lost or damaged? Dirty jeans may be tossed into the washer, cell phone and all! (I am speaking from experience). Having the ability to track your child's whereabouts may seem like an automatic plus, but think twice. What does it mean in terms of emerging issues of autonomy and independence? How will you react when the phone is turned off?

Technological advances have pluses and minuses. Weigh your decision thoughtfully and bring it to prayer. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." (Proverbs 3:5) – Dr. Cathleen McGreal





# Radical kindness

How kind acts can overcome evil

**H**ow wonderful it is to be the recipient of another's kindness! Our group was hopelessly lost. We were seminar-ians coming back to the United States but were able to spend a few days in Rome. We had just gotten off the bus, but were very lost in the large city. None of us knew any Italian. And just as we were gathering together, wondering what to do, a young man offered to help us.

His name was Michael. He stayed with us for a long while, showing us where we could go for housing and food. He was our interpreter and made sure everything was good for us. And he refused all offers of money. As soon as he got us settled, he was off. We were very grateful to him for his kindness, and truly felt we were visited by an angel from God. It turned our whole day around very quickly!

Kindness can do that for us. It can lead a person to a deeper knowledge of God and might even change his or her whole life.

In his recent book, which I highly recommend, *The Virtue Driven Life*, Father Benedict Groeschel, C.F.R. relates how an act of kindness changed his life. He was in the second grade and wondered about his second-grade teacher, Sister Teresa Maria.

He would see her go out of the convent a few minutes before the end of each school day with a box or tray covered by a napkin. It was apparent there was food inside, and Benedict wondered where she was going. He

followed her one day and saw her go into a tenement building. He knew the building because on the lower floor was the barber who cut his hair. During the next visit, he asked the barber who Sister went to see and the barber told him it was an old sick woman. This really piqued Benedict's interest, so the next time he saw Sister Teresa Maria go for a visit, he decided to climb up the fire escape and peek into the window. When he did so, he was horrified, for looking right back at him out the window was the wicked witch straight out of the Disney movie *Snow White and Seven Dwarfs*! "He ran down the fire escape and up into the church with his heart pounding. As he calmed down before the statue of the Blessed Mother, a thought came to mind, "How come the witch did not harm Sister Teresa Maria?" The answer: "Because she was kind to her." Then a profound thought came to him, "Maybe if the world was kinder to witches, they would not be so bad." This is when he received his vocation to the priesthood, and he has spent much time in his life being kind to those who have experienced little or no kindness in their own lives.

There is great power in kindness. It is the power of God. It is the power of love.

Many of the psalms speak about God's kindness. Their experience of being delivered and blessed, forgiv-



en and healed is God's kindness. Even being reproved for their sins and wrongdoings is an act of kindness, for it is far worse to die in sin. Acts of kindness contribute to the healing and restoration of a soul.

All of us get bruised and hurt as we go through life. Unfortunately, we can end up forming a tough shell around our hearts to protect ourselves. It is a defensive

shell that can keep others out — even God. Kindness shown to others can soften the heart — or at least does

**There is great power in kindness. It is the power of God. It is the power of love.**

not add to the hardened layers! It heals not only the one showing kindness but the one receiving it. God brings good to everyone in every manner possible.

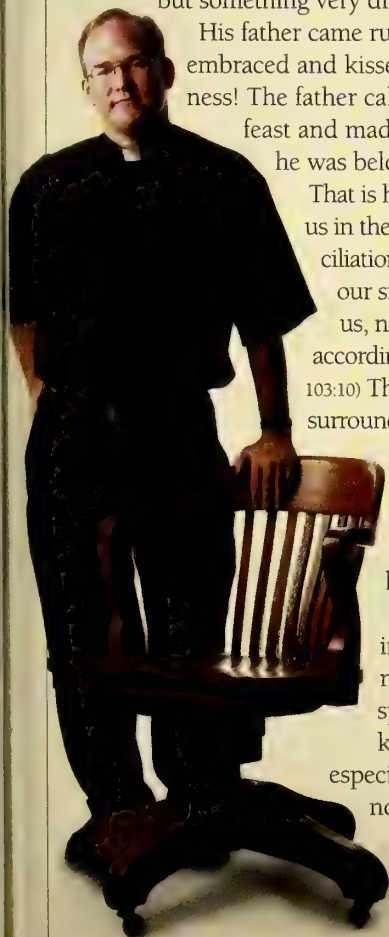
I was very blessed growing up to be encouraged to receive God's mercy in the sacrament of reconciliation. What a wonderful way to experience directly the kindness of God. Normally when we mess up, justice would demand us to be punished. We think of the story of the prodigal son who spent all his inheritance on wine and women. He found himself taking care of pigs that ate better than he. He decided to return to his father even though he felt unworthy to even be called a son. He might have expected punishment and harsh treatment for his foolishness, but something very different happened.

His father came running out to him, embraced and kissed him. What kindness! The father called for an immediate feast and made sure his son knew he was beloved.

That is how the Father treats us in the sacrament of reconciliation. "Not according to our sins does he deal with us, nor does he requite us according to our crimes." (Ps 103:10) The "kindness of God surrounds him who trusts in the Lord." (Ps 32) His kindness is "from eternity to eternity toward those who fear him." (Ps 103:17)

There is great power in kindness, so this month let's make a special effort to be kind to all we meet, especially those who are not kind to us.

— Father Bill Ashbaugh



## Four steps to a kinder, gentler you

**1** Reflect on a time in your life when you received kindness.

What was going on that made the act truly memorable for you? How have you shown kindness?

**2** Read the account of Jesus' treatment of the woman caught in adultery in John Chapter 8, or read the story of the prodigal son in Luke's Gospel. Reflect on the sins you have committed in your life. Imagine yourself being brought to trial for your sins in front of a crowd. Your own life hangs in the balance. Even worse — you know you are guilty. Then hear the words of Jesus your judge: "I do not condemn you." He took upon himself our sins and received the punishment for them. Have we let his kindness touch our hearts?

**3** Pray through some of these Scripture texts that focus on kindness:

**Hos 11:4** "I led them with chords of kindness, with the bands of love, and I became to them as one who eases the yoke on their jaws, and I bent down to them and fed them."

**Ps 141:5** "Let a righteous man strike me — it is a kindness. Let him rebuke me — it is oil for my head; let my head not refuse it."

**Micah 6:8** "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice; to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

**Ps 145:17** "The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works."

**2 Cor 6:6** Paul describes the life of an apostle.

**2 Tim 2:24** "The Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind

to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil.

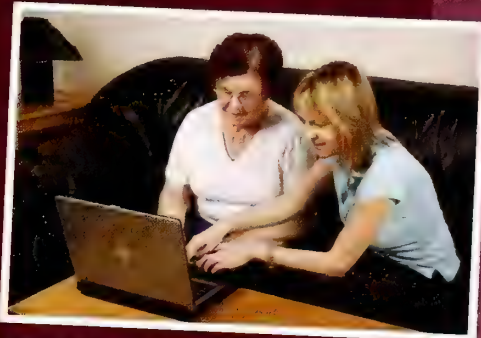
**Romans 2:4** "Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?"

**1 Cor 13:4** "Love is patient and kind..."

**Luke 6:35** Love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great; and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.


**Eph 4:32** Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another as God in Christ forgave you.

**Col 3:12** "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience."



**4** Try and do one act of kindness — no matter how small — for someone each day. Try doing it for strangers or for those who would not be able to pay you back with a favor. Jesus reminded us, "If we love only those who love us, what good is that? Even the pagans do the same." If we have not practiced a lot of kindness in our workplace or even our home, begin there. Feel how good it is to be an instrument of God.





Catholic Book  
of  
PRAYERS

aloe  
&O  
ORGANICS

HAND & BODY  
LOTION



# A spiritual lift in a gift basket

Not long ago, a friend of mine was sharing how down she was feeling. She was pondering a litany of new-age remedies for her slump. At the end of the talk, she suggested that we go and get a pedicure together to help get her mind off of her problems. I was up for the pampering, so I agreed to go. About \$50 later, our feet were looking better than they had in months, and she seemed happier. For about an hour. I could tell the quick fix of the pedicure was wearing off and that those feelings of despair were returning to plague her soul. The reality is that no pedicure, aroma therapy or any other holistic wellness plan was going to help her. I think she truly needed something much deeper, and although I knew darn well what it was, I didn't bring him up. My friend was not a very religious person and I was a little hesitant about "going there."

In the coming days, my lack of courage started to bother me. Why is it so acceptable in our culture to turn to yoga, meditation CDs, or a self-proclaimed TV "expert" for healing and wellness, but yet sometimes awkward for us to suggest turning to God who is, after all, the source of all happiness? While pondering, I realized I needed to be a bit strategic and somehow ease God into her situation. I needed to introduce the idea to her nonverbally. I had an idea.

## For the project shown, you will need:

- 1 medium size basket
- basket filler
- prayer card
- Catholic book of prayers
- Gregorian Chant CD (or any relaxing Christian music)
- hand cream or any spa products of choice
- can of soup or chocolates (or any other comfort food items)
- box of herbal tea
- ceramic mug





Gift baskets have always been a great way to show kindness to someone, and I absolutely love creating them for family and friends for different occasions. I knew my friend would

love one – especially if it was stuffed with wellness items. But among the herbal tea, scented candles and hand lotion, this basket was going to make room for a little bit of God. It offered a mix of things to make a person feel better – topically and spiritually. I included items that are as faith-building as they are meditative and interesting.

Do you know of anyone who could use a spiritual lift? Consider making them one of these baskets. And if it's well received, it just may casually open the door to deeper discussions about real prayer and how it can help – far beyond Tai Chi, nature-sound CDs, and yes, even a \$50 pedicure.

#### Directions:

►► Line basket with filler and then arrange items in any fashion. For an added touch, wrap with clear cellophane and tie with a ribbon and gift card.

#### More ideas

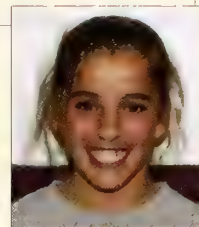
►► For the chocolate lover, create a basket with different chocolate candies and cookies, hot cocoa mix, and a mug among the spiritual items. For a spa theme, find a cotton-lined basket and fill with lotions, body wash, bath oils and a body sponge among the spiritual items.

## Thank you! "Who was kind to you?"

This month, we asked 6th graders at St. Mary Magdalene School in Apex, **"When has someone done something kind for you?"**

#### Caroline

This fall my softball coach needed an assistant and my dad volunteered. Nobody asked him to; he just did it to make me happy. He worked with me at pitching and took me to every practice.



#### Ryan

When I accidentally hit my friend with a driver, everyone was nice to me. His parents didn't make me pay for surgery. Blake forgave me. They knew it was an accident.



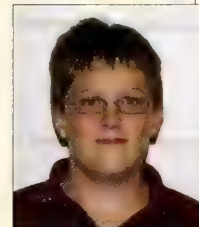
#### Olivia

My friend took time to help me with my homework. She picked to help me instead of going outside and playing. When I finished I got a great grade on it.



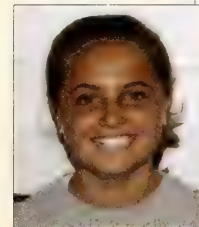
#### Nicholas

A teacher has treated me like one of her children. She tutored me. She inspired me to work harder.



#### Stephanie

A year ago I moved to North Carolina from New Hampshire. My friends and I were very sad. To show it, on the last day of school my class had a party for me. That was one of the kindest things anyone has ever done for me.



#### Conor

My parents take me to all my soccer tournaments. They pay for the hotel rooms and the gas to get me there. They love me so much that they take their own time for me.





## things to do:

**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour**, 7-9 p.m., Oct. 5 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Rocky Mount. The VHH is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. The VHH's are open to everyone, but they are certainly unique opportunities for men and women discerning a church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment. Next month's VHH will be held on Nov. 2 in the Newton Grove Deanery.

### **Married & Engaged Couples - Natural Family Planning.**

October, Respect Life Month, is a perfect time to learn a new way of life in marriage. CCL Natural Family Planning classes will deepen your marital respect for each other as outlined in the "Theology of the Body" by JPII. Learn about your faith while discovering a system of fertility awareness that is 99% effective, safe, healthy and morally acceptable. Course starts on Sunday, Oct. 14th from 2-5p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Raleigh. Materials fee. Register now and call Jeanne & Tim at 786.1205 or Teri & Sal at 469.4226

**Back To Earth**, 10 a.m. Oct. 6; noon. Oct. 7 at the Short Journey Center, Smithfield. This diocesan-wide camp-out is for youth in grades 9-12. Included are an outdoor liturgy, games, dance, movie, a keynote speaker and camping fun with youth. Justice and service are usual themes of this event. For more information, contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or hagarty@raldioc.org.

**21st annual Raleigh/Durham Life Chain.** The national, once-a-year, peaceful prayer vigil to end abortion will be held on Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 7. Participants will stand on both sides of Old Wake Forest Road/Falls of Neuse Road between the Bellline and Strickland Road from 2:30-3:30 p.m. You can pick up signs 15 minutes before the event at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, 7600 Falls of Neuse Road and Friendship Baptist Church, 5510 Falls of Neuse Road.

**Catholic Golden Age** will meet at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 7 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Fallon Center, Raleigh. Call Mary Ruth at 217.9580 or Michaeline at 832.2974 for information regarding the meeting as well as CGA's 5:30 p.m. dinner get-togethers every third Thursday throughout the year.

Celebrate **Hispanic Heritage Month.** Annual Diocesan Mass to be held at 11 a.m., Oct. 13 at St. Mark's, Wilmington. For more information, call the office for Hispanic Ministry at 919.821.9764 or 821.9738.

### **African Ancestry Youth Vocation Spirituality Retreat**, 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 12, 11 a.m. Oct. 14 at Trinity Center, Salter Path, NC. This retreat is for youth ages 8-18. It will address the spiritual needs of our young people today and help them discern a vocation in the Church. Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Sunday. Cost: \$30. For more information, contact Martha Carter Bailey, 919.821.9762 or martha.bailey@raldioc.org.

**Emmaus Conference**, Oct. 19-20, at St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh. This annual adult conference sponsored by the Division of Evangelization and Catechesis is intended for parish catechetical leaders, catechists, youth ministers, priests, liturgical ministers, young adults, school teachers, anyone and everyone involved in passing on the faith, seeking spiritual renewal and companionship. This year's theme is: Catechesis: Encountering the Living Christ.

### **The Women of Faith of Doggett Center**, Raleigh, will hold their

**annual retreat** from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 20. The speaker will be Mary Patricia Dewey, O.P. Her topic: Feminine Images of God in the Scriptures. The Doggett Center is located at 600 Bilyeu St., Raleigh. For further information, please call Barbara Grainger at 420.0484 or Sharon Mango at shjaman@aol.com or 467.0623.

Vengan a celebrar el **Mes de la Hispanidad.** La misa anual diocesana se celebrará el 13 de octubre, 11 a.m. en la parroquia St. Mark's de Wilmington. Para más información, favor de comunicarse con las oficinas del ministerio hispano al 919.821.9764 o 821.9738.

### **Helen D. Cox College Scholarship Fundraiser**, 3 p.m. Oct. 21 at Cardinal

Gibbons High School, Raleigh. This fundraiser event will be celebrated with gospel choirs from colleges and universities in the Diocese of Raleigh. Scholarship applications are available at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/african/](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/african/). Concert time: 3 p.m.; ticket cost \$10.

### **AAMEN Chapter of St. Joseph's - Raleigh** is sponsoring a day trip

to Alexandria, Va., to celebrate the anniversary of the St. Joseph's Gospel Choir. The trip is on Sunday, Oct. 21. The bus price per seat is \$45. If you want more information about the trip please contact Liz Chance immediately at 919.872.2917. Payment is due on Sept. 16, 2007. Check or money order payable to AAMEN Chapter/St. Joseph's/Raleigh. Payment may be sent to St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 2817 Poole Road, Raleigh, N.C. 27610.

### **Catholic Charities Sunday** is

Oct. 27-28. Masses throughout the diocese will celebrate the expression of the Church's social mission through this ministry. Catholic Charities volunteers and staff will be present in many parishes to thank parishioners for their support throughout the year.

**FaithTrax**, Oct. 27, St. Patrick Church, Fayetteville. Participants in this event for middle school youth will learn more about their faith and explore ways to LEARN IT, LIVE IT and LOVE IT! There will be large group activities and also

### **Upcoming retreats at Avila Retreat Center**

**Avila Retreat Center**  
711 Mason Road  
Durham, NC 27712.

► To register or for more information, call 919.477.1285

[www.avila-retreat-center.com](http://www.avila-retreat-center.com)

### ► A Contemporary Look at Mary

9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 2,  
**Description:** A journey with Mary using the seven times Mary speaks in the gospels; she leads us to her son Jesus.

**Presenter:** Very Rev. Msgr. Tim O'Connor, V.F., Pastor, St. Michael the Archangel Church, Cary, N.C. Donation: \$30 (includes lunch)



### ► Franciscan Spirituality Retreat: From the Crib to the Cross

7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5-11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 7

**Description:** Francis contemplates the "humility of the incarnation" and the "charity of the passion." This retreat will be a series of reflections on Francis' experiences at Greccio and



tracks of sessions for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders, as well as two tracks for adults, parents and chaperones (English and Spanish) to deepen their own faith and to discover ways to help foster faith in early adolescents. The FaithTrax Day will include meaningful service projects, cool prayer experiences, and games to help them learn more about their faith.

**Evening for Education in Uganda**, steak dinner and silent auction, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Oct. 27 at the Cary Senior Center, 120 Maury Odell Place, Cary, NC 27513. The guest speaker will be Fr. Emmanuel Katongole, co-director of the Center of Reconciliation, Associate Research Professor of Theology and World Christianity at Duke Divinity School, and author of *A Future for Africa*. Tickets are \$25. Contact banquet@share-the-blessings.org. or John & Donna Fitzgerald, 919.469.0279.

**Ethics in Ministry**, 9:30 a.m.-3:15 p.m., Oct. 31, at the Fallon Center, Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh. This special workshop for lay ecclesial ministers will help explore how good people make tough choices. Presenter: Dr. Brian Reynolds, chancellor and chief administrative officer of the Archdiocese of Louisville. For more information, contact Bea Callery, 919.821.9715 or bea.callery@raldioc.org.

**Carmelite Retreat:** The Secular (Third) Order Discalced Carmelites are sponsoring a silent retreat Nov. 9-11, at the Avila Retreat Center. The retreat master will be Fr. Regis Jordan, OCD. The topic will be "The Beatitudes" in Scripture and the writings of Carmelite saints. Cost for the weekend is \$160. The retreat will include Adoration and opportunities for Confession and spiritual direction. Everyone is welcome. Every retreatant will have a private room. To register send a check for \$50 payable to OCDS to Sandra Malkovsky, 7134 Eastridge Drive, Apex, NC 27539. For more information, call 919.772.2067 or write Sandra@Malkovsky.org.

Mark your calendars! The Fayetteville Office of Catholic Charities will be having its fourth annual fundraiser, **"A Chocolate Affair ... To Remember,"** on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008, at St. Ann Church in Fayetteville, N.C. The event features an array of chocolate goodies, both silent and live auctions of celebrity, sports items and vacation packages, etc. Donations for the upcoming event would be appreciated. Contact: Lou Orban, Regional Director, Catholic Charities of Fayetteville at 910.424.2020 for pickup or more information.

#### LaVerna.

**Presenter:** Fr. Edmund Walker, OFM Cap., became a Franciscan in 1956 and was ordained in 1963. His ministries have included parish ministry, hospital chaplain, marriage encounter, teaching, religious formation and Novice Master. He gives many retreats, days of recollection and parish missions.

**Donation:** \$130. Msgr. Tim O'Connor, V.F., Pastor, St. Michael the Archangel Church, Cary, N.C.

## My boss is wet behind the ears what do we do when our manager has less experience?



**Ann has been at her current job for 20 years, but Kevin, a much younger person, was recently assigned to be her boss.**

**A**nn says: At first, I was deeply offended and upset. I thought, "How could they do this to me? There's no way this kid can be more qualified than I, regardless of how much education he has." Then, as the weeks went by, the inexperience of my new boss was obvious. He was indecisive and overreacted to various situations; he didn't understand the complete picture. Things kept getting worse. But instead of feeling vindicated, I actually started feeling bad for Kevin. He was intelligent and was honestly trying to do well, but he just didn't have the experience. I kept wondering, "Do we tell management that Kevin just can't cut it, or do we try to help him?"

#### ►► The expert says:

Do you have to be a boss to be a leader? Often we get caught up in the formal structure of companies and institutions, thinking that if we're not formally in charge, we can't be leaders. What is a leader? What is management? In *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, Stephen Covey explains the difference between the two. "Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things."

(Covey, p101) Kevin is smart, and he knows how to do things right, but lacks experience. Ann, on the other hand, knows what needs to be done.

There is another dimension to leadership that is often overlooked: service. Christ told us that a leader is a servant. "... let the greatest among you be as the youngest, and the leader as the servant"

(Lk 22:26).

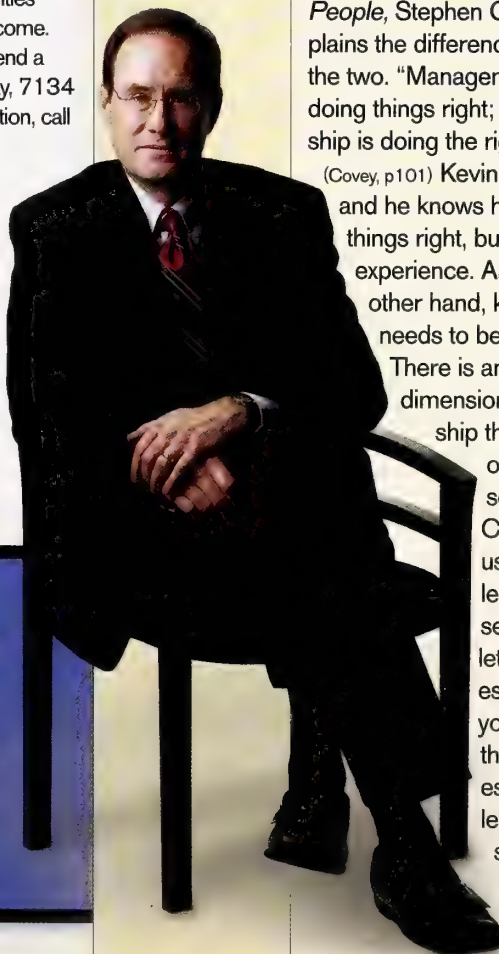
So the fact that Ann knows what to do doesn't necessarily mean that she is a leader. Only when she uses that knowledge in service will she truly become one.

Ann spoke with her teammates and convinced them that they needed to make Kevin successful because only then would the entire team do well. From that point forward, Ann and the rest of team mentored and worked with Kevin to make sure they were doing the right things correctly. Thus, they did very well as a team and built solid, lasting relationships.

#### Lessons in leadership we can learn from Ann:

- You don't have to be a formal boss to lead others.
- Use your knowledge to serve others rather than to advance selfish motives.
- No one person may have all the qualities necessary to make an entire team successful. A true leader pulls the skills of everyone together.
- A leader lets go of his/her ego and seeks the success of the team.

— Tim Ryan





## CCHD Collection – November 10-11

►► Catholic social teaching affirms that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. During this Respect Life month we are asked to reflect on how the sacredness of life is threatened. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human persons.

For many, poverty is the way of life. The poor and the vulnerable often lack the basic needs of life and their dignity is diminished by need and lack of voice in society.

In a particular way the Church addresses this issue through the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the Catholic Church's domestic anti-poverty, social justice program in this country. Its mission is to address the root causes of poverty in America through promotion of community-controlled, self-help organizations and through transformative education. This ministry is rooted in our baptism and faith commitment.

For the last 30 years, we here in the diocese of Raleigh have been the recipients of CCHD grants addressing the needs of the poor and low-income people in our midst. This happens because parishioners across the country have been generous in contributing to the annual CCHD collection taken up each November. As poverty continues to hold so many of our brothers and sisters in this country programs like CCHD provide a hands up for many people. The diocesan collection will take place this year Nov. 10-11.

The promotion and coordination of the CCHD program in Diocese of Raleigh happens with the able assistance of a diocesan committee. Volunteer committee members from across the diocese are working to build a better world through their commitment to the Catholic Campaign for Human Development mission. They assist in promoting the November collection, review grant applications, visit grantee sites and coordinate the annual CCHD Awards dinner in October. Meetings are held quarterly. Interested persons for the committee may contact the office of Peace and Justice, [jurski@raldioc.org](mailto:jurski@raldioc.org). – Sister Joan Jurski

## Summorum Pontificum Implemented

►► On September 7, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge announced the implementation in the Diocese of Raleigh of Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Letter *Summorum Pontificum*. The bishop's statement is available at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news/SummorumPontificum.aspx](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news/SummorumPontificum.aspx).



### PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE DECEASED PRIESTS DURING THE UPCOMING MONTHS.

#### OCTOBER

Most Rev. James J. Navagh, 1965  
Rev. Maurice Roche, C.M., 1994  
Msgr. William G. Wellein, 1997  
Rev. Paul G. Termer, 1970  
Msgr. Michael A. Carey, 1971  
Rev. Leo G. Doetterl, 1956  
Msgr. Christopher Dennen, 1939

Rev. John A. Walker, 1988  
Rev. Raymond J. Donohue, 1997  
Rev. Millard L. Neale, 1947  
Rev. Bernard J. Vincent, 1969  
Rev. Joseph McNamara, O.M.I., 1991  
Rev. John B. Murphy, 1938

#### NOVEMBER

Rev. Thomas G. Roche, 1963  
Rev. Albert J. Todd, 1989  
Rev. Msgr. Frederick A. Koch, 1999  
Rev. George A. Woods, 1960

Msgr. John Manley, 1981  
Rev. John J. Hyland, 1975  
Rev. John A. Regan, 1976  
Rev. Stephen Sullivan, 1989

#### DECEMBER

Msgr. Francis Smith, 1983  
Rev. Vincent M. Stokes, 1979  
Rev. James A. Cowan, 1968  
Most Rev. Vincent S. Waters, 1974  
Rev. Allen A. Jacobs, 1997  
Rev. Paul A. Murphy, 1948  
Rev. John B. McGuirk, 1979  
Rev. Francis A. Scheurich, 1975  
Rev. Francis A. McCarthy, 1962  
Rev. Ambrose Rohrbacher, 1969  
Rev. William E. Pearson, 1962

Msgr. Louis J. Bour, 1962  
Msgr. Peter J. McNerney, V.G., 1967  
Msgr. Herbert A. Harkins, 1962  
Most Rev. Charles B. McLaughlin, 1978  
Rev. Edward F. Rigney, 1959  
Rev. Thomas M. McAvoy, 1978  
Msgr. Francis J. Howard, 1971  
Rev. Maurice Spillane, 1992  
Most Rev. Eugene J. McGuinness, 1957  
Rev. John A. Weidinger, 1979

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COUNCIL

## The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following priest assignments:

#### Effective Aug. 13, 2007

- **Reverend Roger Malonda Nyimi**, of the Diocese of Boma, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Mary, Mother of the Church, Garner, and Saint Mary Parish, Goldsboro.

#### Effective Aug. 27, 2007

- **Reverend Emmet Murphy, O.F.M.**, Franciscan Friar, Holy Name Province, is appointed Parochial Vicar of Immaculate Conception Parish in Durham.

#### Effective Sept. 1, 2007

- **Reverend Salvador R. Jordan, S.J.**, of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Raphael the Archangel Church in Raleigh.

#### Effective Sept. 30, 2007

- **Reverend Frank M. Raffo**, in residence at Saint Anthony of Padua Parish, Southern Pines, is appointed Administrator of Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, Tarboro.

#### Effective Oct. 8, 2007

- **Reverend Philip M. Tighe**, Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish and the Mission of Immaculate Conception, Rocky Mount, is appointed Pastor of Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, Wake Forest.
- **Reverend Clyde Timberlake Meares**, Pastor of Saint Joseph Parish, Burgaw, and the Mission of Transfiguration, Wallace, is appointed Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish and the Mission of Immaculate Conception, Rocky Mount.

An Administrator for Saint Joseph Parish, Burgaw, and the Mission of Transfiguration in Wallace will be named at a later date.

- In response to the request of his Superior, **Reverend Edward Deviny, C.P.**, will begin parish ministry in the Archdiocese of Atlanta. Bishop Burbidge expresses his thanks to Father Deviny for his generous priestly service in the Diocese of Raleigh.



# Celebrating the Catechetical Year 2007-2008

## **ALBEMARLE**

### **Rebeca Boudreaux**

St. Joan of Arc, Plymouth

### **Sr. Teresa Marry**

St. Charles, Ahoskie

## **CAPE FEAR**

### **Mary Pat Barth**

St. Mark, Wilmington

### **Anne Doyle**

St. Mark, Wilmington

### **Mary Hood Hart**

St. Brendan the Navigator, Shallotte

### **Christina Kitts**

Sacred Heart, Southport

## **FAYETTEVILLE**

### **Veronica Archambault**

St. Patrick, Fayetteville

### **Margaret Blanc**

St. Patrick, Hope Mills

### **John Bunting**

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fayetteville

### **Janice Carnahan**

Good Shepherd, Hope Mill

### **Kathleen Flynn**

St. Ann, Fayetteville

### **Camille Grupy**

Good Shepherd, Hope Mills

### **Christine Hatcher**

St. Patrick, Fayetteville

### **Joseph Long**

St. Patrick, Fayetteville

### **Thomas Manion**

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fayetteville

### **Cynthia Marcelais**

St. Stephen, the First Martyr, Sanford

### **Sr. Jeanne Morgan, SSJ**

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Raeford

### **Beth O'Leary**

St. Patrick, Fayetteville

### **Diane Quintal**

St. Stephen, the First Martyr, Sanford

### **Candelario Ramirez**

St. Stephen, the First Martyr, Sanford

### **Mary Sue Riddle**

St. Stephen, the First Martyr, Sanford

### **Mary Evelyn Roy**

St. Patrick, Fayetteville

### **Roxie Vendetti**

Good Shepherd, Hope Mills

### **Chrisitan Wenk**

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fayetteville

## **NEW BERN**

### **Sr. Barbara Marie Cady, S.U.**

Infant of Prague, Jacksonville

### **Kathleen Ford-Green**

St. Egbert, Morehead City



### **Jacqueline Hubbard**

St. Egbert, Beaufort

### **Margaret Hughes**

St. Mildred, Swansboro

### **Ruth Anne O'Neill**

St. Egbert, Morehead City

### **June Pietras**

Annunciation, Havelock

### **Rosemarie Smith**

St. Egbert, Morehead City

## **NEWTON GROVE**

### **Anne Angelo**

St. Mary, Goldsboro

### **Aloise Burian**

Holy Spirit, Kinston

### **Martha Carter-Bailey**

St. Mary, Goldsboro

### **Blanche Ellison**

St. Ann, Clayton

### **Laura Grazioli**

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Newton Grove

### **Ann Herring**

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Newton Grove

### **Jeannie Horton**

St. Mary, Goldsboro

### **Deacon Webster James**

St. Mary, Goldsboro

### **Patricia Kasprzyk**

Holy Spirit, Kinston

### **Lynn Magoon**

St. Mary, Goldsboro

### **Carole Sears**

St. Mary, Goldsboro

### **Andrea Torres-Barragan**

Holy Spirit, Kinston

### **Deacon Mike Walsh**

St. Ann, Clayton

### **Nancy Walsh**

St. Ann, Clayton

## **PIEDMONT**

### **Andrew Casad**

St. Thomas More, Chapel Hill

### **Michele Castle**

Immaculate Conception, Durham

### **J.D. Childs**

Immaculate Conception, Durham

### **Helen Hudson**

Immaculate Conception, Durham

### **Rick Kinsey**

Immaculate Conception, Durham

### **Lynn Sale**

Holy Infant, Durham

### **James Smith**

Holy Infant, Durham

### **Betsy Strauss**

St. Matthew, Durham

### **Jan Vallero**

St. Thomas More, Chapel Hill

### **Lynne Worthington**

Immaculate Conception, Durham

### **Rose Wright**

Holy Cross, Durham

## **RALEIGH**

### **Teresa Aldahondo**

St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

### **Veronica Alvarado**

St. Catherine of Siena, Wake Forest

### **Linda Bedo**

St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh

### **Lori Boodé**

St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh

### **Sr. Mary Therese Brown, SND**

St. Andrew the Apostle, Apex

### **Diane Marie Buckley**

St. Raphael the Archangel, Raleigh

### **Bea Callery**

Doggett Center, Raleigh

### **Jo-Ann Colopy**

St. Luke the Evangelist, Raleigh

### **Marion Danforth**

St. Raphael the Archangel, Raleigh

### **Mary DiSano**

St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

### **Katherine Fortunato**

St. Andrew the Apostle, Apex

### **Susan Gammon**

St. Catherine of Siena, Wake Forest

### **Michele Gora**

St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

### **Michael Hagarty**

St. Mary Magdalene, Apex

### **Randy Harris**

St. Mary, Mother of the Church, Garner

### **Sr. Anne Heath**

St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

### **Mary Pat Hoerner**

St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

### **Linda Hoffert**

St. Andrew the Apostle, Apex

### **Susan Hoying**

St. Raphael the Archangel, Raleigh

### **Terence Jackson**

St. Andrew the Apostle, Apex

### **Robert Jones**

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Raleigh

### **Joan Junginger**

St. Mary Magdalene, Apex

### **Sr. Joan Jurski**

St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

### **Christine Keffer**

St. Mary, Mother of the Church, Garner

### **Suzanne Kenney**

St. Catherine of Siena, Wake Forest

### **Maureen Leahy**

St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh

### **Christine Miesowicz**

St. Francis of Assisi, Durham

### **John Pendergrass**

St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

### **Agnes Penny**

St. Raphael the Archangel, Raleigh

### **Shayne Prorock**

St. Luke the Evangelist, Raleigh

### **Barbara Quinby**

St. Luke the Evangelist, Raleigh

### **Theresa Reed**

St. Andrew the Apostle, Apex

### **Terri Ring**

St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

### **Nina Rizzo**

St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

### **Joan Rose**

Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh

### **Catherine Rusin**

Doggett Center, Raleigh

### **Robert Scripko**

Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh

### **Barbara Jean Shamberger**

Sacred Heart Cathedral, Raleigh

### **Barbara Smelter**

Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh

### **Mary Lynn Whittaker**

St. Raphael the Archangel, Raleigh

### **Martina Young**

St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

### **Rich Zemonek**

St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh

## **TAR RIVER**

### **Mary Callery**

St. Peter, Greenville

### **Gregory Lackey**

St. Peter, Greenville

*Congratulations to the Master Catechists of the Diocese of Raleigh  
The Office of Lay Ministry and the Division of Evangelization & Catechesis*



St. Mark,  
WilmingtonAbundant blessings  
shared

The road leading into the parking lot of St. Mark Church in Wilmington is named John Paul Drive. It isn't named for the last pope, however, but for his predecessor, John Paul I, who died suddenly after 33 days in office in 1978, the year the first St. Mark Church was dedicated. "We had already received permission to name the road when he died," recalls St. Mark parishioner Gloria Brown, "so we just went ahead."

Mrs. Brown and her husband, Jerry, were among the founding members of St. Mark, which began as an offshoot of St. Therese Church in Wrightsville Beach. "The first idea," Jerry Brown explains, was to relocate St. Therese to Windemere, a fast-growing neighborhood of Wilmington. "But studies showed right away that a new parish was needed." Money was raised, a rectory purchased, and construction was started in 1977. Meanwhile, St. Mark parishioners attended Mass in space provided by the nearby Episcopal Church.

When the new church and an eight-room religious education wing were dedicated in 1978, Father Francis Moeslein, the pastor of St. Therese who had been named administrator of St. Mark in 1976, became the first pastor.

The 1978 building would serve as a sanctuary for nearly 20 years,



while growth in the surrounding community – and the Catholic population – exploded. The current sanctuary, with a capacity of 1,000 and a Blessed Sacrament chapel seating an additional 100, was dedicated in 1996, and the old church became the parish hall. In 1999, St. Mark was assigned a mission, Christ the King (*Christo Rey*) in Riegelwood, NC, to serve a growing Hispanic population.

From the beginning, St. Mark was distinguished by its involved parishioners and widespread outreach. In fact, its school, which now serves 343 students (A Montessori pre-school serves 30 more.), was conceived as a result

## St. Mark

1011 Eastwood Rd.  
Wilmington, NC  
28403  
910.392.0720  
www.stmark  
catholicchurch.com

## Mass times:

## Weekdays

Daily: 8:00 a.m.  
Wed. during the  
school year:  
8:30 a.m.

## Weekends

Saturday: 9 a.m.  
and 5 p.m.  
Sunday: 7:45  
a.m., 9:30 a.m.,  
11:30 a.m. and  
5 p.m. Hispanic  
Misa

of the parish's lending a helping hand to the wider community. Msgr. Matthew Hendrick, Pastor of St. Mark since 1991, explains:

"Hurricane Fran hit Wilmington in September, 1996. There was incredible destruction. The Wrightsville Beach Elementary was flooded; there was 4 feet of water and fish in the classrooms. So we offered our parish hall classrooms and parish office areas to their staff, and this space became the elementary school, with 200-some students, for six months."

That gesture proved to be a multiple blessing. The St. Mark community realized that it enjoyed having a school, could support a school and, in fact, felt called to this ministry. After years of planning, data-gathering and fundraising, that dream became

the Diocese of  
**Raleigh**

"Hurricane  
Fran hit  
Wilmington  
in Sept.,  
1996.

**There was  
incredible  
destruction.  
The Wrights-  
ville Beach  
Elementary  
was flooded;  
there was  
4 feet of  
water and  
fish in the  
classrooms  
... this space  
became the  
elementary  
school, with  
200-some  
students, for  
six months."**

a reality when a gleaming new school building opened its doors in August, 2002.

Today, according to the parish History & Mission Statement, St. Mark has over 2,300 registered families and single adult parishioners, triple the number in 1990. Something that hasn't changed is the St. Mark tradition of outreach and sharing: Parishioners participate in more than 50 different ministries, many of them benefiting people outside the parish, from needy families in the greater Wilmington area to missions in Africa and Latin America. Clearly, the seed planted in the "Year of Three Popes" has borne – and continues to bear – abundant fruit.

– Rich Reece



# SIGN UP FOR THE Creative Estate Planning Course

**An in-home study for you to learn more about the complexities of estate planning.**

## How does it work?

It is a "seminar by mail" Featuring five lessons, each consisting of four pages of easy-to-read information. One lesson will be mailed to you each week.

## Is there a cost to participate?

No, this seminar is provided as a service of the Diocese of Raleigh.

## How can I sign up?

Just fill out the information below and mail to:

Debbie Rossi  
Catholic Diocese of Raleigh  
715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

OR

Email Debbie at: [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org)



## What topics are covered?

- "How You Can Shape the Future."
- "How to Make a Better Will"
- "How to Lower Estate and Gift Taxes"
- "How Trusts Can Improve Your Estate Plan"
- "How to Boost Income and Cut Taxes Now."



At the end you will receive a personal estate planning book to complete for your records

Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Visit our Estate Planning Web Site:**

**[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.**

# Coming Soon... Going Fast!



The exciting Pennybyrn at Maryfield is 86% reserved —

that means only a few more can take advantage of pre-opening pricing. Will you be one of them?

This architecturally stunning new community is scheduled to open in Winter of 2007. An active, modern lifestyle that offers you gorgeous private residences, superior amenities and a professional staff to provide unparalleled services...it's the retirement lifestyle that you've been waiting for!

***Don't let this opportunity pass you by. Call (336) 821-4050 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 today...prices will never be this low again!***



**PENNYBYRN**  
at MARYFIELD

A Retirement Living Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

NP/NCC/Urg0807

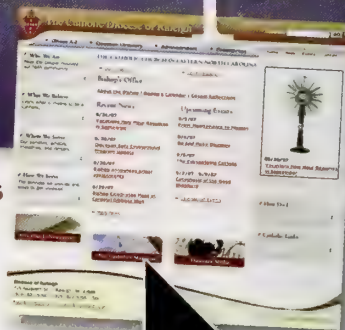




# your church at your fingertips



- breaking, detailed diocesan news
- complete events calendar
- podcasting
- parish links
- Bishop's weekly gospel reflections – video and print versions



Go Now to

**www.dioceseofraleigh.org**

**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

|||||

\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514

35737

P 13 1283

SERIALS DEPARTMENT

33359

CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY

CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

November 2007

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

from the bishop  
**Love is patient**

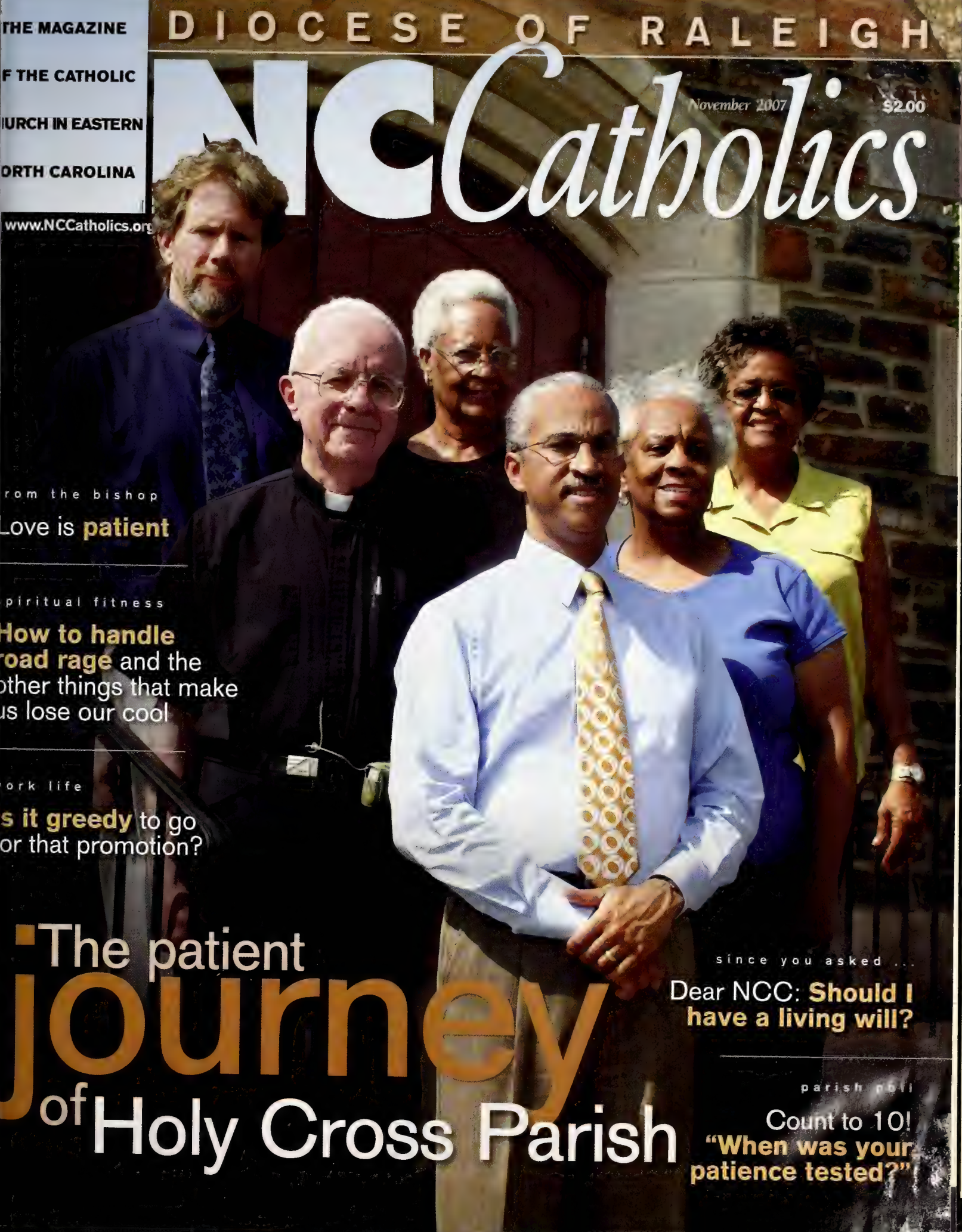
spiritual fitness  
**How to handle road rage** and the other things that make us lose our cool

work life  
**Is it greedy** to go for that promotion?

## The patient journey of Holy Cross Parish

since you asked ...  
**Dear NCC: Should I have a living will?**

parish poll  
**Count to 10! "When was your patience tested?"**





**L**ove is *patient*, love is kind. Love is not jealous...it is not prone to anger; neither does it brood over injuries...There is no limit to love's forbearance, to its trust, its hope, its power to endure. Love never fails (1 Corinthians 13:4-8).

We focus this month on another fruit of the Holy Spirit: patience. As Saint Paul reminds us, this gift is rooted in love. If we truly love ourselves and one another as the Lord teaches, patience will be reflected in all that we say and do.

Many times when we hear the word *patience*, we think of the need to exercise this virtue in our relationships with others. Yet, we cannot do so unless we are first patient with ourselves. When we come to acknowledge our failures and limitations; when we recognize that we keep repeating the same mistakes and when we realize the many things we have failed to accomplish, we can so easily lose patience with ourselves, even to the point of embracing an attitude of defeat.

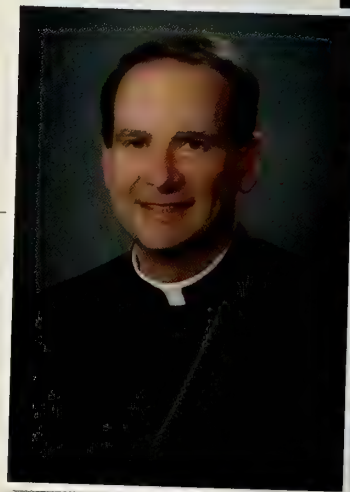
Thus, Saint Francis DeSales tells us to *"have patience with all things but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections, but instantly set about remedying them – every day begin the task anew."* His sound wisdom reminds us that our growth in holiness is ongoing, a daily process. It is not dependent merely upon our determination, efforts and will-power, but rather on the grace of God who forgives us; strengthens us and raises us to new life.

If we are experiencing a lack of patience with ourselves, maybe we have relied too much on ourselves and less on the Lord's divine assistance. In order for us to be patient with ourselves we must entrust each and every day and our very lives to the Lord so that with His grace we may grow in holiness and perfection. Perhaps this prayer of Saint Teresa of Jesus will assist us: *"Let nothing trouble you / Let nothing frighten you / Everything passes / God never changes / Patience / Obtains all / Whoever has God / Wants for nothing / God alone is enough."*

Our love for one another must reflect patience in all our dealings with each other. At times, we may find it easier to be patient with a stranger rather than those closest to us, including our spouses, children, parents, and other family members. Again, we need the grace of God so that we see one another as He sees us, forgive one another as He forgives us and love one another as He loves us. If we live in such a way, our patience will be reflected in the way we speak to one another, in the encouragement we offer and in the opportunities we give one another to begin anew. Such patience will create a distinct atmosphere of love within our homes and circle of friends. Then, those we love will be at ease. They will not be fearful of disappointing us. They will not be on edge in our company. They will not be afraid to be themselves. They will know they are loved and accepted, even in the midst of their mistakes and limitations. They will find the encouragement and support that will assist them in responding to the Lord's call to grow in holiness and perfection.

Our love for God must be reflected in the genuine and pure love we have for ourselves and one another. This love is only possible with God's grace, for which we must pray daily. This love is patient and kind. This love never fails!

– Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is Bishop of Raleigh.



## Love is patient

*"Our love for God must be reflected in the genuine and pure love we have for ourselves and one another. This love is only possible with God's grace, for which we must pray daily. This love is patient and kind. This love never fails!"*



cover  
story

**The patient journey  
of Holy Cross Parish**

►► A story of faith,  
perseverance and  
solidarity

— Rich Reece



el hispano Católico

**16** el hispano católico  
"A nosotros nos importa, hemos  
pasado por eso" Cuando muere un bebe,  
las enfermeras Carla, Patty y Gail ayudan a las  
familias en su dolor. — Rich Reece

**18** Ya que usted lo pregunta...  
"¿Es bueno redactar un  
testamento vital?" — Padre Tad Pacholczyk

**19** Obispo Burbidge  
El amor es paciente — Obispo Michael F. Burbidge



# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

**from the bishop**

**2** Love is patient

— Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

**since you asked ...**

**6** Dear NCC: Should I have a living will?

— Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D.

**from the editor**

**7** Wisdom from grade 7

— Rich Reece

**theology 101**

**8** By His touch we are healed — Jesus as  
healer — Elizabeth Solsburg

**voices in our church**

**11** A St. Monica homecoming

— Msgr. Thomas Hadden

**11** Paciencia

— Padre Fernando Torres

**marriage matters**

**20** He says: We're retired — it's time to  
chuck it in and travel.

She says: I want to spend retirement at  
home with grandkids visiting.

What do they do?

—Tom and JoAnne Fogle

**parenting journey**

**21** Should I let my teenager get a job?

— Dr. Cathleen McGreal

**spiritual fitness**

**22** How to handle road rage and the  
other things that make us lose our  
cool.

— Father Bill Ashbaugh

**parish poll**

**25** Count to 10!

"When was your patience tested?"

**work life**

**27** Is it greedy to go for that promotion?

— Tim Ryan



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

November 2007 • Vol. 3 : Issue 9

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D.  
Father Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

Bob Bowerman  
Denmark Photo & Video (cover)  
EW Photography  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vicki Bedard  
DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING

Jillane Job  
SUBSCRIPTIONS/SECRETARY

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Enomhen Odigie  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Betsy Miner  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Michelle Sessions Difrancio  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™. Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730

## Raleigh priests, Bishop tape video Gospel Reflections for U.S. Bishops

►► For the second time this year, the Diocese of Raleigh will provide a series of daily video Gospel reflections for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Bishop Michael F. Burbidge and nine priests of the Diocese will participate in the USCCB reflection offerings that began in mid-2006.

Bishop Burbidge will provide reflections for Sunday Oct. 7, Sunday Nov. 4 and Christmas Day. The nine priests will rotate each Tuesday beginning Oct. 2 and continuing through March 25, 2008.

The nine are Father David Brockman, Vicar General of the Diocese; Msgr. Tim O'Connor, pastor of St. Michael the Archangel Church in Cary; Msgr. Michael Clay, pastor of St. Ann Church in Smithfield; Father John Durbin, pastor of St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill; Father James Garneau, pastor of St. Mary Church, Mount Olive; Father JaVan Saxon, pastor of St. Mary Church, Laurinburg; Father David McBriar, OFM, parochial vicar of St. Francis of Assisi Church, Raleigh; Father Justin Kerber, CP, pastor of St. Peter Church in Greenville; and Father John Gillespie, parochial vicar of Infant of Prague Church in Jacksonville.

Ellen McCloskey, director of production of the USCCB's Catholic Communication Campaign, said the daily readings page on the Bishops Conference Web site is the most popular area of the site receiving more than 300,000 visits a month. That popularity gave rise to adding video reflections, which have enhanced the page's offering to people in search of a daily meditation. Response has been very favorable throughout the country as well as from places around the world, McCloskey said, explaining, "The messages are so simple, yet so powerful."

The video reflections are part of a four-channel Web site, www.ccc-tv.org. Other parts of the channel include a One-on-One featuring a well-known Catholic; Faith Works, which are stories of faith being lived out in communities across the country; and Beliefs, which will be a new addition explaining Catholic teaching and tradition.

Father David Brockman provided the video reflection for Tuesday, Oct. 2. He was followed by Father Garneau on Oct. 9, Father Gillespie on Oct. 16, Msgr. Clay on Oct. 23 and Father McBriar on Oct. 30. The reflections are archived on the www.ccc-tv.org site.



Father JaVan Saxon, Pastor of St. Mary Church in Laurinburg, shares a light moment with the video crew.



## Altar in priests' cemetery to be consecrated

►► On All Souls' Day, Nov. 2, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge will consecrate the outdoor altar and celebrate the Eucharist in the cemetery of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Newton Grove. The altar, which bears a Latin inscription meaning, in English, "You are a priest forever," was erected in a section of the cemetery where several priests of the Diocese, including Bishop Vincent S. Waters, third Bishop of Raleigh, are buried.

## Priests make annual retreat

►► The week of September 17-21 marked the annual retreat for all priests serving in the Diocese of Raleigh. Prior to the retreat, Bishop Michael Burbidge requested prayers from the faithful of the diocese. "Each year," he said, "this is a very important opportunity for me, Bishop Gossman, and all of our priests to come together for prayer, reflection, and fraternal support. As a gesture of solidarity with us, I ask that you pray each day of the retreat for its success, and in addition, for the priests of your parish."







Bishop Burbidge with organizers of the Run for Life.  
**Inset:** Rose McCreery, with Erastus Kiyama, winner of the 5K race.

Photos by Bob Bowerman

## Runners support life

►► On Saturday, Sept. 8, more than 200 men, women and children gathered at SAS Soccer Field in Cary to participate in the 13th Annual Run for Life. This year's proceeds from registration and sponsorships, approximately \$9000, went to support Birthchoice, a Catholic pro-life pregnancy counseling service that offers free pregnancy tests and practical alternatives for women facing a crisis pregnancy. Birthchoice is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year.

Bishop Michael Burbidge blessed the runners and offered encouragement at the start of the event, which consisted of a one-mile Fun Run followed by a 5K race and an award ceremony.

The winner of this year's 5K race, Erastus Kiama, ran the course in 17 minutes, 21 seconds, a Run for Life record, according to Mary Angelini, the event's organizer. Kiama, from Kenya, who came to the U.S. recently, is seeking opportunities for competitive running, hopefully with a college or university track team. "My mother gave me her savings to travel here," Kiama explained. "All she said was, 'Make me proud!'"



Bishop Burbidge presented service milestone awards to teachers with five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service in the diocese.

## Catholic Educators gather in Raleigh

►► More than 700 Catholic educators and staff representing the Diocese of Raleigh's 33 early childhood centers, elementary and middle schools and Cardinal Gibbons High School gathered in Raleigh, Friday, Sept. 28, for the annual Professional Development Day, sponsored by the Catholic Schools Office. The event is marked by grade-specific workshops, administrators' sessions and the recognition of teachers who are celebrating milestone anniversaries in the Diocesan school system.

The day began with the celebration of Mass, with the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge presiding. In his homily, the Bishop, who taught in Catholic high schools in the Philadelphia Archdiocese and holds a doctorate in education, reminded the teachers of the blessings they have been given, "particularly the privilege of being a Catholic educator."

He spoke of the darkness in the world and the challenges and temptations young people face today, specifically noting violence, prejudice, peer pressure, drugs, alcohol and pornography. "The Lord sent you to these students," the Bishop said, "to teach them and to convince them that the Light of Christ has conquered the darkness!"

Bishop Burbidge shared a story of a teacher who would bow to the students before every class. He said when she was asked the purpose of the gesture, she replied, "So that I never forget who sits in front of me: young men and women who are temples of the Holy Spirit."

## The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the appointment of the following members of the College of Consultors:

►► **From the Council of Priests, the following are appointed members of the College of Consultors:** Very Reverend David D. Brockman, V.G., Very Reverend James F. Garneau, V.F., Reverend Monsignor Jeffrey A. Ingham, V.F., Very Reverend Ernest J. Ruede, V.F., Reverend Monsignor Girard M. Sherba, V.J., Reverend Monsignor Michael P. Shugrue, Reverend Joseph G. Vetter.

**The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following parish assignment effective Oct. 8, 2007:** Reverend Desmond R. Keenan, retired, is appointed Administrator of Saint Joseph Parish, Burgaw, and the Mission of Transfiguration, Wallace.



# Dear NCC

This month with Father Tad Pacholczyk

## "Should I have a living will?"

**M**any people believe they can exercise better control over their own destiny by filling out a living will (also called an "advance directive.") They may have concerns about becoming caught in a tangle of tubes, wires and technology as they are dying, unable to break free and extricate themselves. They hope that by signing on the dotted line, they may be able to breathe their last "easily and peacefully." At first glance, an advance directive may appear to address many of our end-of-life concerns, and hence, can seem like a good idea, but it often tends to serve as a rather "blunt instrument" when it comes to handling complex and nuanced end-of-life situations. Moreover, living wills are sometimes used to buttress or justify some of the morally problematic decisions being made in health care settings today.

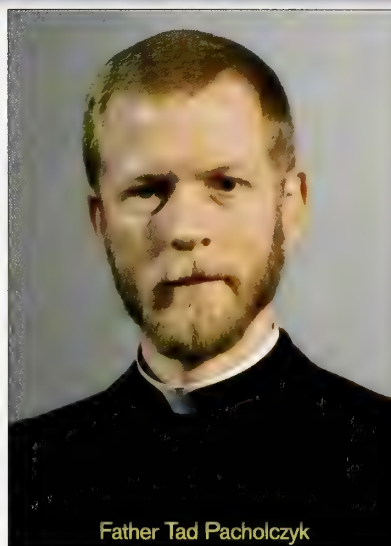
One of the major difficulties with some living wills is that they may be written using broad and imprecise language, giving rise to the idea that all treatment options are morally equivalent. One widely available living will called "5 Wishes" offers questionable options and morally dubious choices to the patient by including, as but one example, the following series of check-boxes:

**Permanent And Severe Brain Damage And Not Expected To Recover:** If my doctor and another health care professional both decide that I have permanent and severe brain damage, (for example, I can open my eyes, but I can not speak or understand) and I am not expected to get better, and life-support treatment would only delay the moment of my death (Choose one of the following):

\_\_\_ I want to have life-support treatment.

\_\_\_ I do not want life-support treatment. If it has been started, I want it stopped.

\_\_\_ I want to have life-support treatment if my doctor believes it could help. But I want my doctor to stop giving me life-support treatment if it is not helping my health condition or symptoms.



Father Tad Pacholczyk

The various options presented above cannot be morally legitimate for every case of severe brain damage, even though they are offered as if they were. Severe brain damage affects different people differently, but even when likely to cause a permanent disability, or otherwise lower the individual's "quality of life," this does not imply that we always have a valid moral option to discontinue life-support. Many people live in compromised, less-than-ideal situations, yet are valuable members of our families and communities. Some have argued that the loose language of many living wills has the effect of setting up a "glide path" into euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide.

Too often, people imagine that the choice to accept or decline a particular medical intervention can be made in a kind of vacuum, as if every decision were equally acceptable, since we are free to choose. But the freedom to make our own health care

decisions implies that we have moral obligations and duties, one of which is to be certain that we are using all the "ordinary" or "proportionate" interventions necessary to maintain our life and health. To put it simply, those medical treatments, medications, and procedures that offer reasonable hope to protect and preserve life without grave burden to oneself or another are ordinary care, and are required as part of our duty to care for ourselves.

An advance directives has another flaw that makes it a rather "blunt instrument" in end-of-life situations. When we sit down to draft a living will, we suppose that we can foresee, predict or somehow imagine what our particular medical situation will be like in the future, maybe 10 or 20 years down the road. This is clearly an exercise in speculation, and we might actually fare better in the stock market or in Las Vegas than in an exercise of this sort. I recall hearing about a man who asked his friend who worked as a Catholic ethicist to review his living will and see if there was anything in it that would be in conflict with good ethics or Catholic teaching. The document was a full 26 pages long, covering as many scenarios as the man could imagine or dream up. A few days later, he called the ethicist and asked whether he had looked over his living will yet. The ethicist replied that he had, and that he had only one comment: it was too short! The point of the story is that even if we labor exhaustively in the preparation of a living will, we can't realistically cover every possibility, and we can easily miss the one condition or circumstance that may eventually befall us.

Another story involves a businessman who had diligently filled out his living will, indicating that



if he were to suffer a serious injury or sickness, he wouldn't want any tubes or mechanical assistance with breathing. He just wanted to be let go. One day he had a heart attack, and was struggling to breathe. The ambulance rushed him to the local hospital. In

**When we sit down to draft a living will, we suppose that we can foresee, predict or somehow imagine what our particular medical situation will be like in the future, maybe 10 or 20 years down the road. ... we might actually fare better in the stock market or in Las Vegas than in an exercise of this sort.**

the emergency room, they showed him his living will, which they had on file, and said, "You didn't want us to do anything, according to your advance directive." He blurted out, "Look, I don't care what I wrote there - I can't breathe, and I want you to help me now!" We don't always know what a particular situation will really be like beforehand, or how we will approach urgent life and death decisions when they arise.

There is a better choice available to Christians than a living will. We can choose

a surrogate, a living person, who will make health care decisions in real time on our behalf if we are rendered unable to do so. The proposed surrogate (also called a "health care proxy") is someone who cares deeply about us, who loves us, and is reasonably able to make decisions in accord with our known wishes and with our best medical and spiritual interests in mind. Filling out a form to designate our health care proxy is something that each of us should do as a sensible way to prepare for difficult end-of-life situations that may arise. Preparing such a document can also prompt us to begin discussing these important topics more effectively with our families and loved ones.

— Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)

**►► For more information on the October 1, 2007 changes to the North Carolina Advanced Directive for a Natural Death and Health Care Power of Attorney please contact Debbie Rossi at 919.821.9721 or [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org).**

**►► Forms are available to assist with selecting a health care proxy: Visit [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org) to view to the "End-of-Life Guide" under the Publications section of the NCBC Website.**

## Wisdom from grade 7

**A**mong the various tasks associated with editing *NC Catholics*, I think my favorite is assembling our Parish Poll. Each month, with the help of the principal of one or another of our Catholic schools, I'll pose a question to some of their students, then choose six answers to publish in the magazine. The best part: I get to visit the school and photograph the boys and girls whose answers were chosen.

The question is often tied to the theme of a particular issue. For instance, this month's theme is patience, so the question, which was posed to seventh-and eighth-graders at Blessed Sacrament Catholic School in Burlington, was, "Tell about a situation or activity that tests your patience." As almost always happens, there were many more than six great responses. But one answer, from a boy named Alex in grade 7, struck me as almost profound coming from one so young.

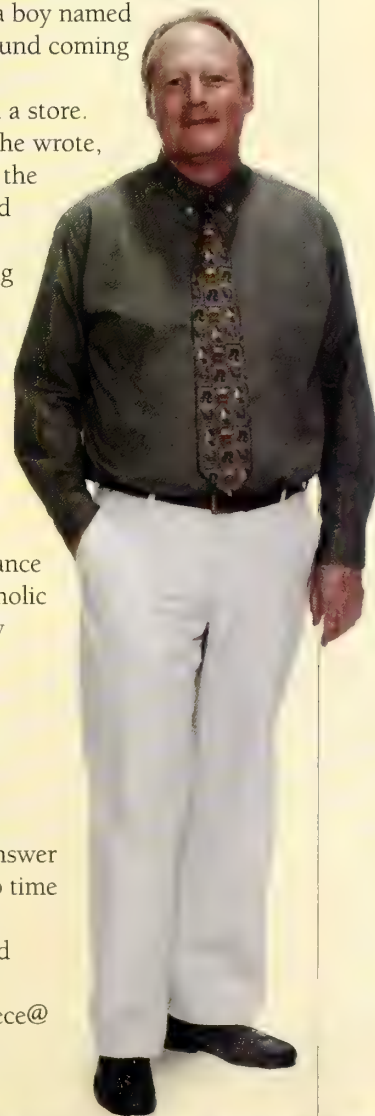
Alex wrote about being in a long line at a store. But "patience means more than waiting," he wrote, "it's about how you wait." I think most of the great Catholic contemplatives, ancient and modern, would agree with him. Patience, as Alex understood, isn't just about getting through something, it's about interior peace and hope.

This month's cover story is about the patience of a people, the Catholic community of Holy Cross Church in Durham. Most recently, that patience has been demonstrated in its collaborative journey to a new place of worship. But patience is a word with tremendous resonance to a predominantly African American, Catholic congregation in the South that has proudly maintained its identity since 1939.

Finally, in this issue's "Ask NCC" on p. 6, we introduce a new contributor, Father Tad Pacholczyk, Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. Father Tad is a nationally syndicated Catholic bioethicist, and will answer questions on bioethical issues from time to time in future issues of NCC.

Thanks, as always, for your feedback and encouragement. You can write me at 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC, 27606 or [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).

— Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.







theologian  
of the month

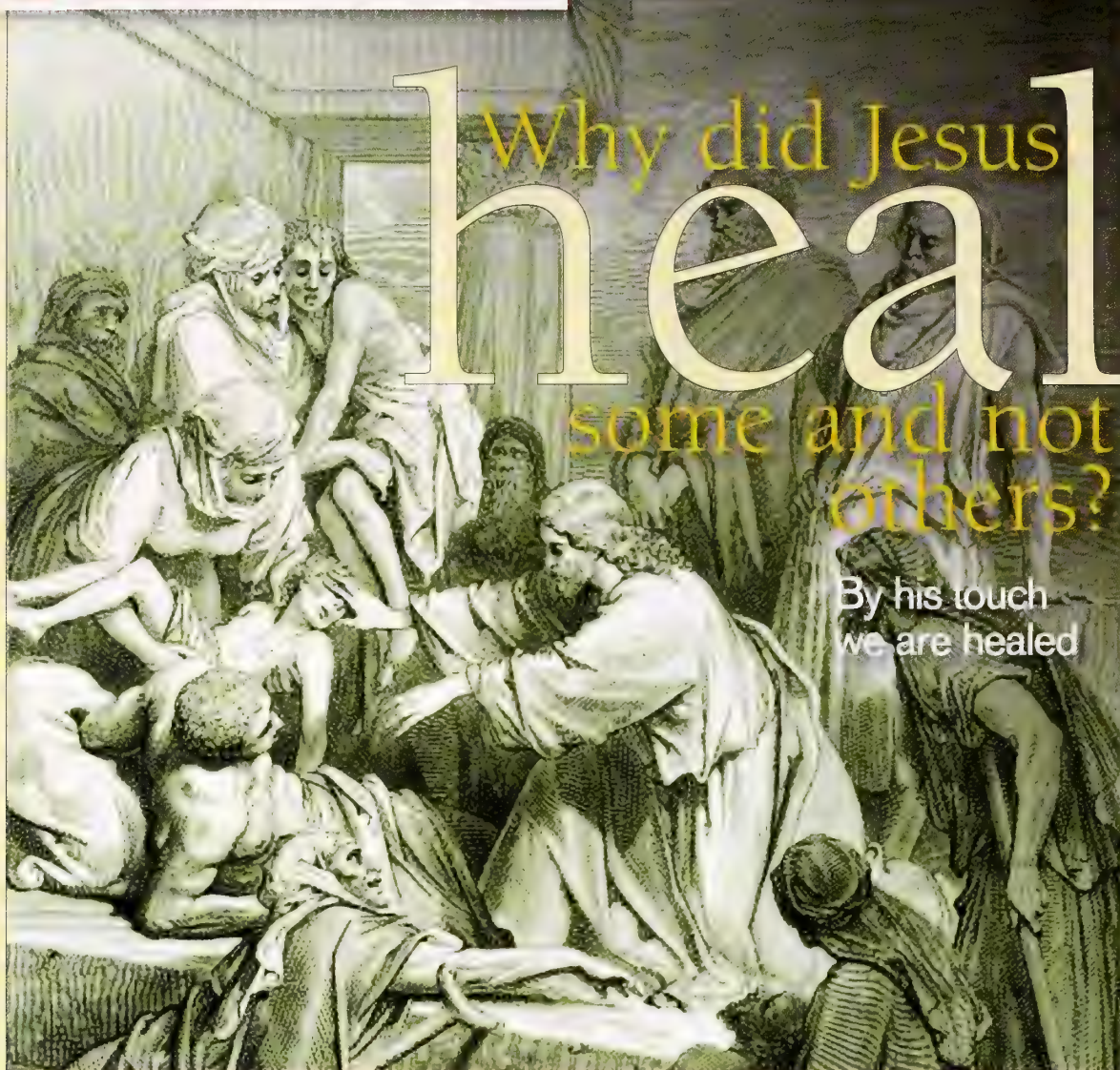
**Thomas  
Aquinas**  
(1225-1274)

Thomas was a younger son, destined by his family to become the abbot of the Benedictine monastery at Monte Cassino, succeeding his uncle. But while he was studying at the University of Naples, Thomas was drawn to the Dominicans, revolutionaries in the clerical world of the Middle Ages.

Thomas' family objected strenuously – to the point of kidnapping him and holding him captive for more than a year in order to change his mind. It took an appeal to the pope to persuade them to allow Thomas to become a Dominican.

His most famous work, *The Summa Theologiae*, has profoundly influenced Catholic theology through the centuries.

Thomas is the author of the beautiful *Office of Corpus Christi*, which affirms the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.



# Why did Jesus heal some and not others?

By his touch  
we are healed

**T**his year, *NC Catholics* is exploring Christology – the study of Jesus Christ. We asked several eminent seminary professors some questions about Jesus. Their answers are enlightening and thought-provoking.

**NCC: Jesus is often presented as a healer. Why did he heal only some and not others?**

**Father Stevens:** Why did he heal anybody? We can't see Jesus' ministry as something he owes us. The fact that he even healed one person is a cause of wonder, gratitude and awe. The fact that it happened often makes us seem ungrateful. We also can't separate his healing ministry from his preaching ministry – the proclamation of the kingdom is not one thing he does among others. When he heals a blind person, the person can also see a path. They can follow him in a way not currently available to them. The woman with the flow of blood is ritually impure and cannot be part of the community until Jesus heals her.

Meet the  
professors



Father Acklin



Father Muller



Father Stevens

• **Father Thomas Acklin** is a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa. He is a graduate of Duquesne University, St. Vincent Seminary, The Catholic University of Louvain and Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Institute.

• **Father Earl Muller** is The Bishop Kevin M. Britt Professor of Theology/Christology at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. He formerly taught at Marquette University in Wisconsin.

• **Father Gladstone Stevens** is on the faculty of St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.



## Heresy!

### Predestination: God has already decided who is saved

►► **Heaven or hell – where are we going?** According to predestinarians, God has already decided and there's nothing we can do about it. Christ died for the elect, not the non-elect, who are already condemned. Although we cannot know what camp we are in, our actions may indicate what God has already decided – someone who is a mass murderer is probably not one of the elect, for example. Although predestination was condemned by the Council of Lyons in 475, it still exists today. One of its most famous adherents was John Calvin, for whom Calvinists are named. Predestination eliminates the concept of free will and universal salvation.

His healings all restored people to fellowship and communion, which is what the kingdom is all about. In a sense, each of his healings brings out a different aspect of his kingdom. He empowers all humanity to be participants in the kingdom.

**Father Acklin:** There has been a tendency to take a rationalistic approach to miracles – to write them off. For example, the miracle of the loaves and fishes has been reduced to a beautiful story, but not a supernatural one. I believe in miracles – they always come where there is great faith. The faith Jesus calls for when he is performing a miracle is not required because Jesus is unable to perform it otherwise. When Jesus performed miracles, there was always a request and interaction – always a summoning of faith. Jesus didn't

simply wave his hand and make magic, and he wants us to participate in faith as when he said to his disciples, "You give them something to eat yourselves."

God never performs gratuitous miracles – he comes down into our very suffering. He didn't raise Lazarus from the dead without participating in the grief. The Last Supper didn't happen without the washing of the feet. The Eucharist is a miracle in which we must participate by receiving. We need to listen to God's answers to our prayers – often as miracles, God gives people something different than what they requested.

We sometimes cannot find him in suffering, because he is not working a miracle from outside but is right there in the middle of the suffering. For example, in the Holocaust, God was in the smoke and



what does that symbol mean?

#### Peacock

★ The peacock is depicted in the catacombs and early churches as a symbol of Christ and the resurrection.

The peacock represents immortality and its flesh was believed to have antiseptic qualities and to be incorruptible.

the fire – in there with his people. Jesus gave us the model for our prayer in the *Our Father* and then lived it out in his prayer in Gethsemane. We ask for what we need, but then say, "your will be done." This allows God to give us what is best for us.

**Father Muller:** Part of the issue of healing is the connection that physical disability or illness has with demonic powers. So when Jesus came and opposed the forces of evil, one manifestation of that is physical healing. It shows concretely an undoing of the effects of sin. Illness and death are understood to flow from the sin of Adam. Christ came not just to save our souls but our whole realities, and we are creatures of body and soul. So, saving us involves saving our bodies. Healings give testimony to the totality of the salvation that God brings.

Jesus' healings are focused where faith can be evoked without being compelled. He did not perform signs for the scribes and Pharisees because these were people who were deliberately staying on the fence – had refused to make a decision about John the Baptist. To give them a sign would be to undo what he'd done with the temptations at the beginning of his ministry. If he'd floated down from the top of the Temple, the Jewish leaders would have been compelled to faith.

– Elizabeth  
Solsburg

## Bible Quiz

I get no respect! Who am I?

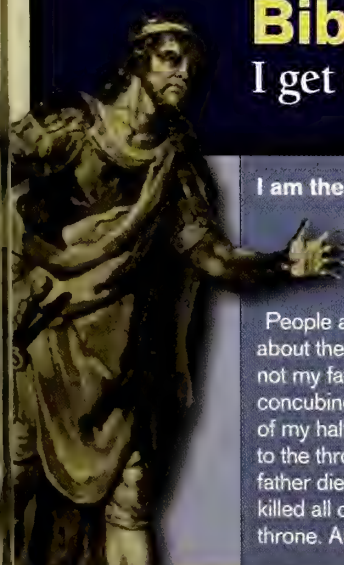
I am the son of Gideon, who was such a great judge that my name can be interpreted to mean, "My father, the king."

People always made a big deal about the fact that my mother was not my father's wife – she was his concubine. In fact, they thought all 70 of my half-brothers had more right to the throne than I did. So when my father died, what choice did I have? I killed all of them but one and took the throne. And I just didn't get the respect

I deserved from some of my subjects – so I had to resort to force. When the town of Thebez revolted, I went in to take care of things, but some woman threw a mill-stone from the town wall and wounded me. I knew it was fatal, so I asked my armor-bearer to run his sword through me – better to die like a man than to go down in history (in the Book of Judges) as someone who was defeated by a mere woman.

Who am I?

►► Turn to page 28 for the answer





# Tortured on a wheel

## Saint Catherine of Alexandria

### Saint Catherine of Alexandria

**Birthplace:** Egypt

**Feast Day:**

Nov. 25

### ★ Claim to fame:

Tradition says Catherine of Alexandria was born to non-Christian, aristocratic parents. After speaking with a hermit one day, she converted to Christianity. Soon after, Catherine dreamed she was the bride of Christ and woke up wearing his ring. At this time, Christians were being persecuted by Emperor Maximinus. Catherine went to him and rebuked him for his cruelty, offering intelligent reasons for embracing Christianity. Instead of responding, Maximinus had 50 pagan philosophers debate her. Aided by the Archangel Michael, Catherine out-reasoned them and converted all of them. Enraged, the emperor ordered the philosophers to be killed. Yet, he was highly impressed with Catherine and asked her to marry him. She refused and was beaten and thrown into prison.

★ **Why she is a saint:** Catherine is considered one of the 14 holy helpers in heaven. Many legends circulate about her, many of which cannot be substantiated. For example, it is said that upon her death, milk flowed from her veins instead of blood. Catherine is also said to have been one of the divine voices who advised Joan of Arc. The bravery and intelligence of young Catherine of Alexandria continue to provide inspiration.

★ **Best quote:** Catherine was among the most popular saints of the Middle Ages. The story of her life prompted much song and poetry. Adam of Saint-Victor wrote a magnificent poem in her honour: *Vox Sonora nostri chori*.

★ **How she died:** Many pagans visited Catherine in prison, including 200 of the emperor's soldiers. Catherine converted them all to Christianity. Maximinus, determined to stop Catherine once and for all, ordered her to be tortured to death on a spiked wheel. However, at her touch, the wheel shattered miraculously. Catherine was then beheaded. Legend has it that angels whisked her remains to Mount Sinai, where a church and monastery were later built.

★ **Prayer:** O God, Catherine devoted her life to spreading the news of your love. Through her intercession, may we learn to love one another as she did and to preach your Good News. Amen. —Jan Rynearson



### Santa Catalina de Alejandría

**Lugar de nacimiento:** Egipto

**Día de la santa:** Previamente, 25 de noviembre

►► **Lo que la hizo famosa:** La tradición dice que Catalina de Alejandría tenía padres aristócratas que no eran cristianos. Un día, después de conversar con un ermitaño, se convirtió al Cristianismo. Poco más tarde, Catalina soñó que era la novia de Cristo y cuando se despertó llevaba su anillo. En esa época los cristianos estaban siendo perseguidos por el Emperador Maximinio. Catalina fue a verlo y lo reprendió por su crueldad ofreciéndole razones inteligentes para que abrazara el Cristianismo. En vez de responderle, Maximinio hizo que 50 filósofos paganos debatieran con ella. Pero con la ayuda del Arcángel Miguel, Catalina con buenas razones ganó la discusión y los convirtió a todos ellos. El emperador enfurecido ordenó que mataran a los filósofos. Sin embargo, quedó muy impresionado con Catalina y le pidió que se casara con él. Ella se rehusó a hacerlo y la golpearon y la echaron en una prisión.

►► **Lo que la hizo santa:** Catalina es considerada como uno de los 14 santos ayudantes del cielo. Existen muchas leyendas que circulan sobre ella, muchas de las cuales no se pueden corroborar. Por ejemplo, se dice que al morir leche circulaba en las venas de Catalina en vez de sangre. Se dice además que la voz de ella fue una de las voces divinas que le dieron consejo a Juana de Arco. El valor y la inteligencia de Catalina de Alejandría continúan siendo fuente de inspiración.

►► **Su mejor cita:** Aunque no tenemos documentación de las palabras de Sebastián, se dice que él se le apareció en una visión a una mujer cristiana llamada Lucina. Cuando se enteró del martirio de Sebastián, ella rescató su cuerpo y lo enterró apropiadamente en las catacumbas, un cementerio subterráneo debajo de la ciudad de Roma.

►► **Forma en la que murió:** Cuando finalmente se descubrió la verdadera fe de Sebastián, el emperador Dioclesiano lo condenó a muerte. Atado a una estaca, le lanzaron flechas. Sus verdugos lo dieron por muerto, pero Sebastián sobrevivió. Una viuda cristiana llamada Irene que había venido a enterrarlo, lo cuidó hasta que se repuso. Sin dejarse intimidar por los sufrimientos anteriores, Sebastián encaró a Dioclesiano y denunció sus atrocidades contra el Cristianismo. El emperador se sorprendió de ver a Sebastián vivo, pero no se arrepintió. En cambio, ordenó que lo apalearan hasta matarlo y que arrojaran su cuerpo en una alcantarilla.

►► **Oración:** Querido San Sebastián, elegiste ser soldado de Cristo y te atreviste a divulgar la fe del Rey de Reyes por lo que te condenaron a muerte. Haz que tengamos tu misma fortaleza en la fe. Amén.



## A St. Monica Homecoming

In August, Sacred Heart Cathedral celebrated St. Monica's Feast with a reunion of the people who belonged to St. Monica Parish (1930-1968) or St. Monica School or both. It is sort of a homecoming celebration, where people gather to renew friendships and to reminisce about the good days of being part of that Raleigh community.

St. Monica School existed to provide quality education for children of African ancestry. The school was staffed by Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, from the Scranton, Penn., branch of the order. Interestingly the first superior general of this order of sisters was of African ancestry. She was in the founding group of the Oblate Sisters of Providence, which was the first order of African ancestry sisters.

Among the people present at the celebration was Rev. P. Kimberleigh Jordan. Her mother attended St. Monica at the same time I did, and Rev. Jordan attended Cathedral School while I was rector of the cathedral. She never became Catholic, but became a prominent minister in The United Church of Christ. Today she is the associate pastor of the prestigious Marble Collegiate Church in Manhattan, the first woman and the first person of African ancestry to hold this position.

African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization was founded to nurture the faith of Catholics of African ancestry and to reconcile those who fell away from the Church when their churches and schools were closed or merged, as well as to offer the Catholic Church as a church home to the unchurched. And each year the St. Monica celebration includes the presentation of the St. Monica Award, created by African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization to recognize an elder in the African ancestry community of the Diocese of Raleigh.

This year's recipient was Curtis DeLoatch, the founder and president of the Cathedral Chapter of African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization. Curtis is very involved in the Cathedral Parish. He is a member of the parish council and of the spiritual choir, for which he often serves as cantor. Under his leadership, the chapter sponsors an annual event for Black History Month. He also is active in the work of the Office of African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden



Mike Huzler

## Paciencia

Sabemos que es una gracia que Dios da y una virtud que trabajaron los santos, puliéndola con sacrificios, actos heroicos, pero especialmente con actos de fe.

La paciencia, como el amor, ha servido para todo: Se predica a los atribulados como resignación, se da como consejo a los que padecen persecución, se le pide al enfermo, al que está en la prisión, al que tiene un familiar adicto, a la persona que tiene una pareja violenta, celosa o incomprensible. Se le implora al que tiene que corregir a los hijos o tiene que educar a los niños. Se le pide al que tiene dudas, al que ama, al que odia, al que está muriendo y más que todo al que está viviendo.

La paciencia sí es una virtud para cada cristiano durante la jornada de la vida. No es un calmante ni una frase de cajón que se acomoda a cada situación. La paciencia debe ayudar al cristiano a situarse en el presente, asimilando el pasado y esperando el futuro; Pero no para que el presente cambie y sea mejor por la mano de Dios, por la benevolencia del destino o de los otros, sino por la acción personal de saber que espera en Dios, que conoce su voluntad y entiende su plan en su vida y la realiza.

La paciencia es saber que el tiempo vuela, pero la eternidad espera. Es comprender que todo tiene su momento y todo tiene un proceso. Es trabajar como el agricultor que combina su labor con el sol, la tierra, la lluvia, la semilla y los días para poder cosechar.

La paciencia es el tiempo de Dios para darnos la oportunidad de trabajar por su reino y hacer su presencia viva en la Iglesia, en el mundo y en el corazón de todos, con la única fuerza que se llama amor, con la confianza que crece en Dios y en su Hijo Jesucristo nuestro Salvador y con la paz de la guía de su Espíritu que siempre nos dirá en el interior del corazón: "No temas, que yo estaré contigo hasta la eternidad"

— Padre Fernando Torres



Mark Hadden



A story  
of faith,  
perseverance  
and solidarity





# The patient Journey of Holy Cross Parish

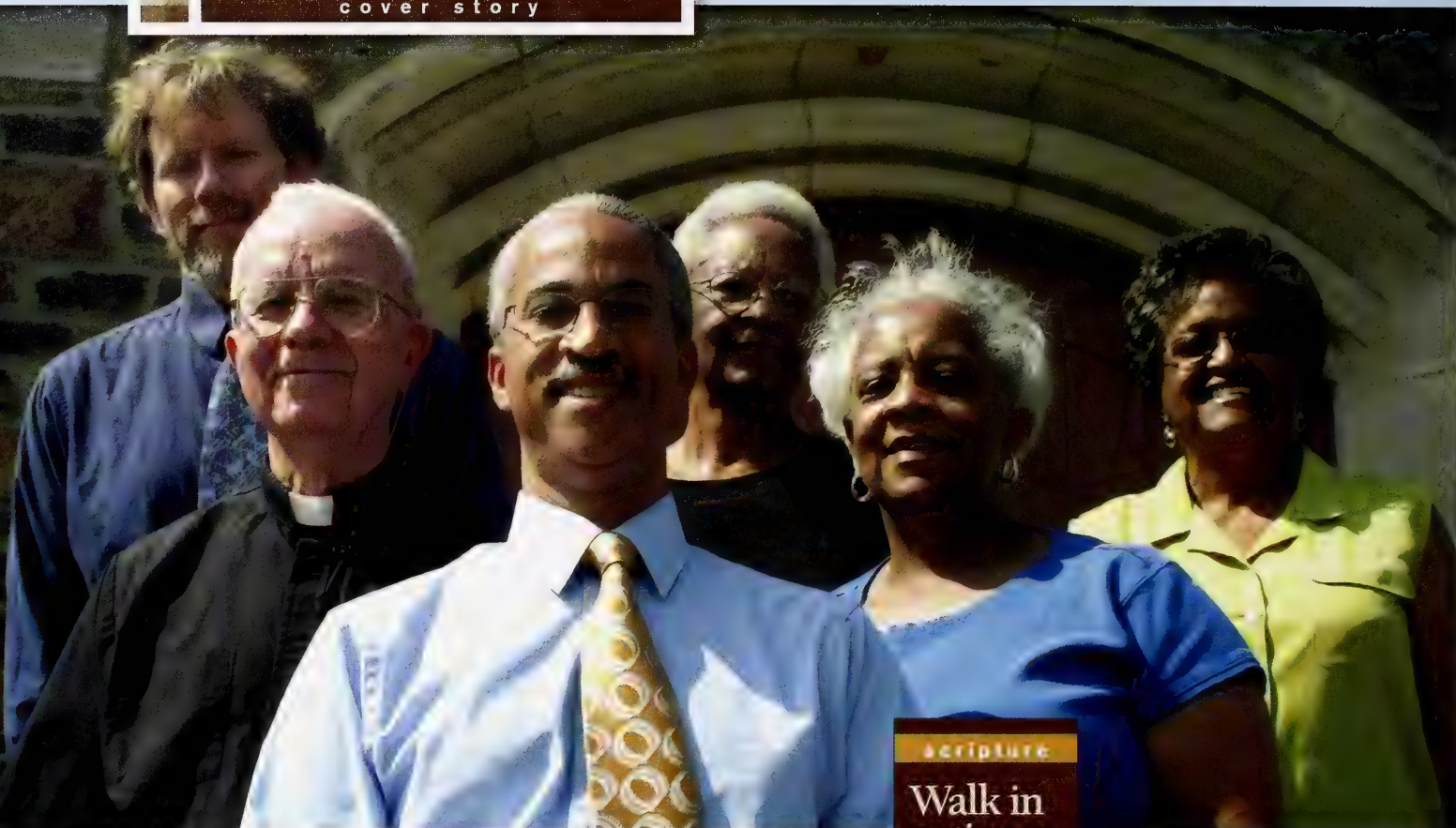
By Rich Reece | Pictures by Denmark Photo & Video

This year on the First Sunday of Advent, the parish of Holy Cross in Durham will dedicate a magnificent new church. But the old church, where Holy Cross' predominantly African American congregation has worshiped since 1952, will be present as well. The wall behind the altar and the baptismal font will be faced with stone from the earlier church, a symbol and reminder of a fiercely maintained parish identity, and a long, patient journey to this joyful moment.

In *Tar Heel Catholics, A History of Catholicism in North Carolina*, author William Powers calls Holy Cross "unusual, if not unique."

It is an African American parish, a remnant of the age of segregation when every major town in North Carolina had a white church and a 'colored' church. Here, no one complains. In fact, any effort to change the character of Holy Cross would be resisted by its parishioners, many of them lifelong members of the congregation. ►





**T**he journey of Holy Cross began in 1939, when the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus established it as a mission to evangelize the black community. Powers relates that the founder, Jesuit Father William Risacher, found only one black Catholic family in Durham, but celebrated Mass in a dental office, then a beauty parlor and finally the rectory chapel, until Bishop Vincent S. Waters consecrated the little stone church on Alston Avenue in 1952.

This affirmation of the black congregation occurred – Powers calls it “indicative of the complexity of the racial situation in the state” – when Bishop Waters was beginning to mandate integration of the churches in the diocese, a plan that usually involved closing the colored parishes and directing the white congregations to accept black members. The result was a setback for African American evangelization: Bereft of their familiar church communities, uncomfortably tolerated by the white congregations, many Af-

rican American Catholics joined other churches.

How did Holy Cross keep its identity? “We fought for it,” says Gloria Burton, past chair of the parish council. Longtime parishioner Helen Hudson, a catechist and community leader, agrees. “We had numbers,” she says, “and strong advocates with the bishop, especially Charles Blackmon and George Thorne.”

Hudson, in the years when Mass was still celebrated in Father Risacher’s rectory, was a student at the North Carolina

**“We tried to clarify who we were, where we had been, what we could do in the future to enhance and enable our ministries.”**

#### scripture

### Walk in patience

► Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4: 1-6

College for Negroes, today North Carolina Central University (NCCU), adjacent to the church property. Like Hudson and Burton, many members and leaders of Holy Cross parish would come from the student body of NCCU. Ironically, the needs of the university would gradually consume the property on which the church stood. By 2003, the original parish site of 20 acres had been reduced to four.

At the same time, the parish was studying expansion. James Sansom, a member of the steering committee that guided the parish as it decided on a future course, explains that the church had embarked on a self-study. “We tried to clarify who we were, where we had been, what we could do in the future to enhance and enable our ministries.”

It was during this period of community discernment that NCCU came forward with a desire to purchase the final parcel of church property from the Maryland Jesuits, and the exploration turned to the possibility of purchasing new land and erecting a new church.



► "With the church and the whole site we wanted to retain as much as possible the feel of the old church ... **we've used the stone from that building**, and the walls and beams of the sanctuary are reminiscent of the high wooden walls in the old church."

The journey to a new church is one that many parishes in the rapidly growing Diocese of Raleigh have made. But the small size of Holy Cross parish – perhaps 300 families – and the number of stakeholders – the parish, the diocese, the Maryland Jesuit Province, NCCU and the State of North Carolina – presented unusual challenges. The Maryland Province

**"One of the foundational components of being a Christian is faith,... when you're presented with taking out a loan for two-thirds of what you've saved up, that takes a lot of faith."**



began by purchasing 20 acres of land about a mile down the road (20 acres is the minimum set by the diocese for a new parish property). The parish initiated a capital campaign with a goal of \$900,000, and received pledges totaling more than \$1 million. Additional funding came from the sale of the old site to the state, and from the Diocese of Raleigh, which provided a loan, including some interest-free loan funds.

Yet, for this tight-knit congregation, there was more involved than business. "We have all prayed every week for this ef-

ners on several occasions to help them iron out priorities and get on board with the vision.

"One of the foundational components of being a Christian is faith," Chris Brown says with a smile, "and when you're presented with taking out a loan for two-thirds of what you've saved up, that takes a lot of faith. Trying to decide what's the difference between being faithful and being a good steward – that's hard."

What strikes someone who talks about this process with a few of the parish leaders is the extent to which the effort has been collaborative. This is a parish which does things together, in which everyone's opinion is solicited and matters. That "going back and forth" that James Sansom talks about may require an extra dose of patience, but to this community, not surprisingly, inclusion is crucial.



fort," Gloria Burton says. The journey to a new church was a spiritual one, with some moments that were exhilarating and others that were discouraging.

Was there ever a low point? Burton smiles: "I think when we started to see what we could afford and what we couldn't. Some of the initial vision had to be scaled down or postponed." Chris Brown, in charge of the landscaping committee for the new site, says, "We had to decide whether to do just one of the things we'd envisioned – just a sanctuary or just an activity center or just an educational wing -- or to do a little of each one."

James Sansom adds, "When you're presented with a plan from an architect, he shows you the best of the best. Then you have to digest that and see what's the best you can really do with the resources you have. That takes some time of going back and forth." Gloria cites Father Donald Sterling, S.J., who spoke with parishio-



The new Holy Cross Church is, first of all, huge compared with the old church, which, according to Gloria Burton, seated 85 "with chairs in the aisles." The pine forested acres around the church will be complemented, Chris Brown explains, by 350 to 400 plants.

"With the church and the whole site," Brown says, "we wanted to retain as much as possible the feel of the old church. Unfortunately," he smiles, "part of that feel was its... compactness."

"But we've used the stone from that building, and the walls and beams of the sanctuary are reminiscent of the high wooden walls in the old church. Outside, we're going to have a children's play area. And a little white gazebo with the statue of Mary inside has become something of a parish icon. Then we'll have a meditation space that will incorporate a rose garden – the old rose garden was very important to us – and slate from the sidewalk at the earlier site. There are plans at some point to build a columbarium and working that into the space."

Holy Cross pastor Father Frank O'Connor, S.J., has a further vision for the new site. He talks about Ignatian Partners, a program where small groups of parishioners are partnered by Jesuits in evenings of prayer based on the Exercises of St. Ignatius. "It would be wonderful," he says, "if we could establish Holy Cross as a regional center of Ignatian spirituality. Right now the closest such centers are in Atlanta or Maryland."

After touring the old Holy Cross and the new site, Father O'Connor, Chris Brown, James Sansom, Gloria Burton, Helen Hudson and Facility Expansion Steering Committee member Yvonne Fisher are asked to pose for photos in front of the respective churches.

James agrees graciously, but just a bit reluctantly. "There are a lot more people," he says, "who belong in this picture."



Cuando muere un bebe, las enfermeras Carla, Patty y Gail ayudan a las familias en su dolor

“A nosotros nos importa, hemos pasado por eso”

**E**n 1985, Gail Heider, una enfermera de partos en un enorme hospital en la región norcentral, estaba a las expectativas de su tercer hijo. Cinco semanas antes de que diera a luz, su bebe murió. “Nos quedamos en completo asombro” recuerda. “No tuve ningún problema con los embarazos anteriores.” El hospital no brindaba ningún apoyo en casos de un parto mortinato. “Nosotros tuvimos que arreglárnosla como pudimos” explica Gail, “y nuestro comportamiento les resultó incomodo a algunos miembros del hospital porque lo abrazamos y lo bañamos para tomar su foto.”

## Resources

**RTS:** En Wilmington, un grupo se reúne el tercer miércoles de cada mes, para apoyar a personas que han sufrido la perdida de un niño. Para más información, comunicarse con Patty White por el siguiente correo electrónico: [patty.white@nhhn.org](mailto:patty.white@nhhn.org).



Este triste evento, comenta Gail, “cambió mi vida, y la de ese hospital gracias a mi hijo” Otra mujer en el hospital contó sus experiencias de la perdida de niños, mucho antes de que permitieran verlos. Como resultado, el hospital comenzó un programa para superar el dolor por la perdida prenatal (la muerte de un bebe durante o poco después del nacimiento)

Hoy en día, Gail forma parte de un equipo de tres enfermeras Católicas en el centro médico New Hanover en Wilmington (NHRMC) quienes brindan apoyo a las familias que confrontan la perdida de su hijo. Sus compañeras de equipo son Carla Edwards, enfermera de parto y Patty White quien trabaja en la unidad de cuidados intensivos para recién nacidos del hospital (NICU) por sus siglas en inglés. Al igual que Gail, Carla y Patty vienen del ministerio para superar la perdida de sus criaturas. Carla sufrió cuatro abortos y Patty perdió a su hijo Sam en 1993 por defectos cardíacos. “Estuve muy molesta” Patty recuerda, “molesta con Dios”. ¿Qué hice para merecer esto? ¿Qué hice mal? Pero aprendí que no me lo merecía, fue algo que sucedió y de mi dependía tomar una decisión al respecto.

“Ahora me doy cuenta que fue Dios quien me guió por un nuevo sendero que no fue de mi elección. Yo no estuviese trabajando aquí si Sam no hubiese venido a nuestras vidas para hacer esta gran diferencia, y a través del trabajo que realizamos, el impacta la vida de los demás”

Este programa originario de La Crosse, WI, lleva por nombre Resolve Trough Sharing (RTS por sus siglas en inglés) y ahora está disponible en hospitales de todo el país. Los miembros del equipo cargan buscapersonas las 24 horas del día para asistir en emergencias y continúan brindando sus servicios con dichas familias por un año o más después de la tragedia. Ellos aseguran que estas familias hagan su transición en ese difícil proceso, enviando tarjetas, reuniéndose fuera del hospital, etc. Además, Patty y Carla ofrecen clases a otros profesionales del hospital, incluyendo capellanes y terapeutas, para ayudar a las familiar a sobrellevar la tristeza de perder a un bebe. “Todas las personas que asisten a estos pacientes son parte del equipo” comenta carla. “Tratamos de mostrarles como ayudar



### Share Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support, Inc.

[www.nationalshareoffice.com/contact\\_request\\_info.shtml](http://www.nationalshareoffice.com/contact_request_info.shtml). Esta compañía envía un paquete de información con respecto a los problemas de la pérdida de un niño, una lista de grupos de apoyo en el área, un catálogo y una copia del boletín informativo Sharing. Este paquete y el boletín informativo se obtienen de forma gratuita por un año, para aquellos padres que están afrontando esta situación.

a las familias con lo que necesiten en ese momento: fotos, recuerdos, hasta bañar y vestir al bebé si es lo que la familia necesita”

Bautizos o bendiciones, todavía hay muchas personas que se incomodan con lo que hacemos “¿van a fotografiar a un bebé fallecido?”, pero en pos de ese acontecimiento estas decisiones son las únicas que puedes tomar. Todo lo que el padre y la madre puedan hacer en ese momento para sentirse padres los ayudará en su proceso de dolor”. “Algunas veces la pérdida es muy emocional” dice Patty, “La primera reacción de las enfermeras es la de evitar todo contacto posible. Nosotras hacemos hincapié en el significado de ese contacto.” “que puedes decir y que no” añadió Carla. “Puedes decir –Lo siento- puedes decir la verdad de lo ocurrido y que esperar de ellos, pero no puedes decir –Tu bebé está en el cielo- puedes tener otro bebé- porque uno nunca sabe” “Este bebé en particular es irremplazable” comenta Patty. “Necesitas llorar por la pérdida de este bebé, incluso si tienes diez más, porque tienes que guardar en tu memoria el recuerdo de él o ella. Nuestro personal intenta ofrecer todas las opciones posibles” “escuchar también es importante” dice Gail, “Muchas veces las familias están conmocionadas, puesto que ocurren muchas cosas en la clínica como también internas; los pueden bombardear de información, pero se ven incapacitados de procesarla en ese momento. En vez de hablar, ellos necesitan mucha ayuda sutil durante esta fase.”

La pérdida de un bebé, tiene un efecto adverso en la pareja. “Los hombres y las mujeres expresan su dolor de forma diferente” explica Carla. “Él puede que no sepa como aceptar sus emociones, cuando al mismo tiempo ella piensa que él no expresa sus emociones y por eso no se siente afectado por la pérdida del bebé. También, él está pensando que el debe ser el más fuerte de la relación, aunque esté destrozado por dentro. Las parejas tienen que trabajar muy duro para entender los sentimientos de ambos, en mantener los canales de comunicación abiertos y entender que ellos no van a sentir de la misma manera.” Patty agrega que “algunas veces, alguien dice –por lo menos se tienen el uno al otro- para tratar de aliviar la situación” pero siempre le decimos a las parejas que existen otros recursos,

### Salmos

**139:13-14**

**13** Tú creaste mis entrañas; me formaste en el vientre de mi madre.

**14** ¡Te alabo porque soy una creación admirable! ¡Tus obras son maravillosas, y esto lo sé muy bien!

### Salmos

**139:13-14**

**13** Tú creaste mis entrañas; me formaste en el vientre de mi madre.

**14** ¡Te alabo porque soy una creación admirable! ¡Tus obras son maravillosas, y esto lo sé muy bien!

### Salmos 71:5-6

**5** Tú, Soberano Señor, has sido mi esperanza; en ti he confiado desde mi juventud.

**6** De ti he dependido desde que nací; del vientre materno me hiciste nacer. ¡Por siempre te alabaré!

### Salmos 4:8

**8** En paz me acuesto y me duermo, porque sólo tú, Señor, me haces vivir confiado

### Empty Cradle

[www.emptycradle.org/](http://www.emptycradle.org/) es una organización sin fines de lucro compuesta en su totalidad por voluntarios.

### The Compassionate Friends

[www.compassionatefriends.org/](http://www.compassionatefriends.org/) ayudan a familias de una manera positiva a sobrellevar el dolor de la pérdida de un hijo de cualquier edad y aporta información para ayudar a otros que también lo necesiten. El sitio Web, incluye un localizador de centros de reunión.



como por ejemplo un capellán o un buen amigo.”

La experiencia de tener un buen amigo, motiva a estas mujeres que han sufrido la pérdida de un bebé a ayudar a otras. Patty recuerda a una pareja que conoció hace ocho años, con las cuales todavía mantienen el contacto; tuvieron un bebé prematuro y estuvo en una incubadora en el NICU. “Yo los veía todos los días” dice Patty, “el bebé estaba muy enfermo, y murió a las dos semanas” Ellos son católicos y mi hija sirvió como monaguillo en el servicio del funeral del bebé en St. Mary. Tiempo después, comenzaron un programa de apoyo para padres que sufren la pérdida de su hijo. Ahora, la señora tiene dos hijos desde aquel incidente, pero nunca se olvidan de ese bebé, y además, asiste al programa RTS.

Carla recuerda a otra madre con la que trabajo hace un año; “ella estaba furiosa al comienzo” no podía entender por que murió su bebé, pero algunas veces nunca te enteras y tuvimos una larga conversación al respecto. Hace algunas semanas, ella regresó para decirme que una de sus tías, quien estuvo con ella durante su dolor, tuvo una tragedia en su familia; “yo estuve allí para ayudarla” comentó. Ahora, ella está estudiando para ser enfermera.

Patty y Carla están de acuerdo con las palabras de Gail: “Cuando perdí a mi hijo, Dios abrió una puerta que jamás quise abierta. Nunca hubiese escogido pasar por ese dolor, pero fue una tremenda experiencia de madurez, y muchas personas me ayudaron de una forma inimaginable. No me arrepiento.”



## “¿Es bueno redactar un testamento vital?”

**M**uchas personas creen que pueden controlar su propio destino si redactan un testamento vital o (voluntad anticipada). Quizás, se preocupan por quedarse atrapados en una maraña de tubos, alambres y tecnología, sin poder librarse y desenredarse ellos mismos, con la esperanza de que al firmar en la línea punteada, respirarán sus últimos días “aliviados y en paz”.

En primera instancia, un testamento vital parece la respuesta ideal a nuestras preocupaciones a la hora de la morir y por lo tanto parece una buena idea, pero con frecuencia suele ser un instrumento de doble filo a la hora de decidir durante situaciones difíciles. Además, estos testamentos vitales algunas veces son utilizados para justificar algunas de las decisiones morales más problemáticas que presenta el área de salud hoy en día.

Uno de los problemas que presenta este tipo de testamento, es que suelen estar escritos en un lenguaje muy general e impreciso, insinuando la posibilidad de que todas las opciones de tratamiento contienen la misma equivalencia moral. Una de las opciones de testamento disponibles lleva por nombre “5 deseos”, el cual ofrece al paciente opciones cuestionables y moralmente dudosas, como por ejemplo las siguientes opciones a continuación:



Padre Tad Pacholczyk

### **Daño traumático cerebral permanente SIN**

**posibilidad de recuperación:** Si mi doctor lo considera u otro centro de salud consideran que Yo tengo daño traumático cerebral permanente (por ejemplo: abro mis ojos, pero no puedo hablar o entender) y no muestro señales de recuperación, y el tratamiento de reanimación solo retrasa la hora de mi fallecimiento (seleccione una de las siguientes opciones):

- ☐ Solicito un tratamiento de reanimación
- ☐ No solicito un tratamiento de reanimación. En caso de haberlo iniciado, deseo interrumpirlo.
- ☐ Solicito un tratamiento de reanimación si mi doctor lo considera necesario. Pero, solicito que mi doctor no me administre el tratamiento de reanimación si mi condición medica o mis síntomas no mejoran.

Las opciones presentadas anteriormente, aunque las presentan como tal, no pueden ser consideradas legítimamente morales para cada caso de daño traumático cerebral permanente, ya que toda persona reacciona diferente. Sin embargo, incluso cuando es probable

# Ya que usted lo pregunta...

Este mes con el Padre Tad Pacholczyk

que cause incapacidad permanente, o disminuya la “calidad de vida”, esto no implica que nosotros siempre tengamos la opción moral de discontinuar la vida. Muchas personas viven comprometidas, con mucho menos de las condiciones ideales, pero son miembros invaluables de nuestras familias y comunidades. Muchos argumentan que el lenguaje de los testamentos vitales tiene el efecto de “facilitar” el camino a la eutanasia o al suicidio asistido por un profesional de la salud.

A menudo, debido a que tienen la libertad de elegir, las personas imaginan que la opción de aceptar o rechazar una determinada intervención médica se puede realizar como en una especie de aspiradora, de tal manera que todas las decisiones son aceptadas de igual manera. No obstante, el hecho de que nosotros tengamos la libertad de tomar nuestras propias decisiones implica que tenemos deberes y obligaciones morales a seguir, y una de ellas es la de asegurar que utilicemos las intervenciones “regulares” o “proporcionadas” necesarias para preservar nuestra vida y salud. En otras palabras, aquellos tratamientos médicos, medicamentos, y procedimientos que nos ofrecen una esperanza razonable de proteger y salvaguardar nuestra vida sin ponerla en peligro, se considera un cuidado regular, y es obligatorio como parte de nuestro deber de defender nuestra vida.

La voluntad anticipada tiene otro defecto que los convierte en un instrumento de doble filo en estas situaciones. Cuando nos sentamos a elaborar un borrador

de nuestro testamento, pensamos que podemos predecir o de alguna manera, imaginar como será nuestra condición medica en quizás unos 10 o 20 años después. Esto es sin duda el ejercicio de la especulación y tal vez podamos obtener un mejor precio en el mercado de valores o en Las Vegas que en un ejercicio de esta índole.

Una vez, recuerdo haber escuchado a un hombre que le preguntó a su amigo, quien es un ético católico, que revisara su testamento para asegurarse de que no existiera ningún tipo de conflicto con la buena ética o las enseñanzas católicas. El documento contenía 26 páginas, abarcando tantos escenarios como fuera posible. Días después, éste hombre llamó a su amigo para preguntarle si había revisado su testamento vital y el ético respondió que si, pero que tenía un solo comentario al respecto: “¡era demasiado corto!” El punto de la historia es, aunque elaboremos una preparación exhaustiva de nuestro testamento, no podemos cubrir todas las posibilidades que existen a escala real, y podemos fácilmente pasar por alto una condición o circunstancia que nos pueda ocurrir mas adelante.

Otra historia tiene que ver con un empresario, quien elaboró su testamento vital, indicando que en la eventualidad de sufrir un serio accidente o enfermedad, no requería ninguna asistencia mecánica para respirar, tan solo quería morir. Un día, sufrió un infarto y tenía dificultad para respirar. La ambulancia lo llevo inmediatamente al hospital. En la sala de emergencias, mostraron su testamento vital, el



cual lo tenían en los archivos, y le dijeron "Tu voluntad anticipada, estipula que no quieres que hagamos nada". El empresario enseguida respondió "¡Mira, no me importa lo que escribí allí, no puedo respirar, y quiero que me ayudes ahora mismo!" Nosotros no sabemos con anterioridad en que situación estaremos, o de que manera podemos afrontar decisiones de vida o muerte cuando éstas se presentan.

Existe una posibilidad aún mejor para los cristianos que un testamento vital. Podemos nombrar a una persona sucedánea, quien tomará las decisiones de asistencia médica en tiempo real, en la eventualidad de que nosotros estemos imposibilitados a hacerlo. Dicha persona sucedánea (que también lleva por nombre "poder para asistencia medica") es alguien que nos ama y tiene la responsabilidad de tomar decisiones razonables de acuerdo con nuestros deseos y con los mejores intereses, espirituales y médicos, en mente. Elaborar una planilla para designar a dicha persona sucedánea, es algo que podemos hacer para tomar las decisiones más acertadas en la eventualidad de una situación difícil de vida o muerte. La elaboración de este documento nos ayuda a discutir este tema tan importante con nuestras familias y seres queridos, de una forma eficaz.

— Reverendo Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Dr. obtuvo su doctorado en neurociencia en la Universidad de Yale y obtuvo su postdoctorado en Harvard. Es sacerdote de la Diócesis de Fall River, en MA y sirve como director de Educación en The National Catholic Bioethics Center en Philadelphia. Para más información, ingrese a: [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)

►► A continuación, las planillas están disponibles para seleccionar un poder de asistencia médica: Visit [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org) to view the "End-of-Life Guide" under the Publications section of The NCBC Website.

**E**l amor es **paciente**, es bondadoso. El amor no es envidioso ni jactancioso ni orgulloso. No se comporta con rudeza, no es egoísta, no se enoja fácilmente, no guarda rencor. El amor no se deleita en la maldad sino que se regocija con la verdad. Todo lo disculpa, todo lo cree, todo lo espera, todo lo soporta. El amor jamás se extingue. (1 Corintios 13:4-8)

Este mes, nos enfocamos en otro fruto del Espíritu Santo: la paciencia. Este regalo, según San Pablo, tiene sus orígenes en el amor. Si nos queremos a nosotros mismos y a los demás como lo enseña el Señor, la paciencia se verá reflejada en todo lo que decimos y hacemos.

Muchas veces, cuando escuchamos la palabra *paciencia*, pensamos en la necesidad de practicar esta virtud en nuestra relación con otros. Sin embargo, nos vemos imposibilitados a serlo, si no somos pacientes con nosotros mismos. Al momento de darnos cuenta de nuestros fracasos y limitaciones; de reconocer que seguimos cometiendo los mismos errores y al darnos cuenta de todo lo que hemos dejado de hacer, podemos perder la paciencia fácilmente con nosotros mismos, hasta el punto de adoptar una actitud de derrota.

De esta manera, San Francisco De Sales expresó: "*Sé paciente con todo el mundo; pero sobre todo, contigo mismo. Que tus imperfecciones y tus miserias no te desanimen nunca, pero ponte manos a la obra de inmediato para remediarlas. Cada día comienza la tarea de nuevo.*" Su gran sabiduría nos recuerda que nuestro crecimiento en lo divino es infinito, es un proceso diario; pero esto no depende meramente de nuestra determinación, esfuerzo y voluntad, sino de la gracia de Dios quien nos perdona, fortalece y nos eleva a una nueva vida.

Si perdemos la paciencia, tal vez confiemos demasiado en nosotros mismos y menos en la divina asistencia del Señor. Para que nosotros seamos pacientes con nosotros mismos, debemos confiar cada día de nuestras vidas en el Señor, que con Su gracia nos haga crecer en espíritu y la perfección. Que esta oración de Santa Teresa de Jesús nos ayude en esta tarea:

"Que nada te turbe, que nada te espante.

Todo se pasa. Dios no se muda.

La paciencia todo lo alcanza.

Quien a Dios tiene, nada le falta.

Sólo Dios basta."

Nuestro amor por el prójimo debe reflejar paciencia, y algunas veces, suele ser más fácil ser paciente con los demás que con nuestros seres queridos; esposos, hijos, padres y otros miembros de la familia.

Una vez más, necesitamos la gracia de Dios para mirar a los demás como Él mira, perdonar a los demás de la misma manera que Él lo hace y nos ama. Si vivimos de este modo, la paciencia se verá reflejada en nuestra manera de hablar, en el ánimo que les brindamos a los demás y en la oportunidad de comenzar de nuevo.

La paciencia crea una atmósfera diferente de amor en nuestro hogar y entre nuestro círculo de amistades. Entonces, todos nuestros seres queridos se sentirán tranquilos, nunca sentirán temor de decepcionarnos, tampoco se sentirán agobiados en nuestra compañía, y jamás sentirán temor de ser ellos mismos.

Ellos sentirán nuestro amor y aceptación, incluso, en sus limitaciones y al cometer errores; además, conseguirán apoyo que los ayudará a responder al llamado del Señor en el camino a la virtud y la perfección.

Nuestro amor por Dios debe reflejarse en el amor puro y genuino que sentimos por nosotros mismos y por el prójimo. Este amor es solo posible con la gracia de Dios por la que debemos orar a diario. ¡Este amor es paciente y bondadoso, este amor jamás se extingue!

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh



El amor  
es paciente



## romance

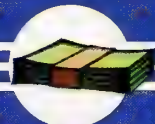


## Romance

►► Don't put it off any longer. Along with the annual maintenance for your car, your furnace and your finances, attend a marriage enrichment or retreat. After all, isn't your marriage more important than your car, your furnace and your finances?



## money



## Tax time

►► Don't wait until the end of the year. Consider a consultation with an accountant or financial planner to make sure that you are getting all the deductions to which you are entitled. Consider making a donation to your favorite charity with all or a portion of your refund.

**C**arl and Marie have just retired after long and successful careers. But they are discovering that they have very different ideas about what retirement means.

## We're retired – it's time to chuck it all and travel.

## he says

**Carl says:** We've finally retired and it's time to have the adventures we didn't have time for when we were working full-time. I want to see the country – go to New England in the fall, Arizona in the winter, maybe Alaska. I think we should sell the house, buy a really nice motor home and hit the road. But Marie doesn't want to do a darn thing! I won't sit home for the rest of my life – I'm going on the road with or without her.

## I want to spend retirement at home with grand-kids visiting

## she says

**Marie says:** I don't know what has come over Carl. We never talked about doing anything like this. Our home has always been here: Our children and grandchildren all live within 25 miles of where we are. I don't want to hit the road; I envisioned retirement as a time to spend with the grandkids, really get into some gardening. I don't want Carl to leave, but I'm not a road warrior.

## experts say

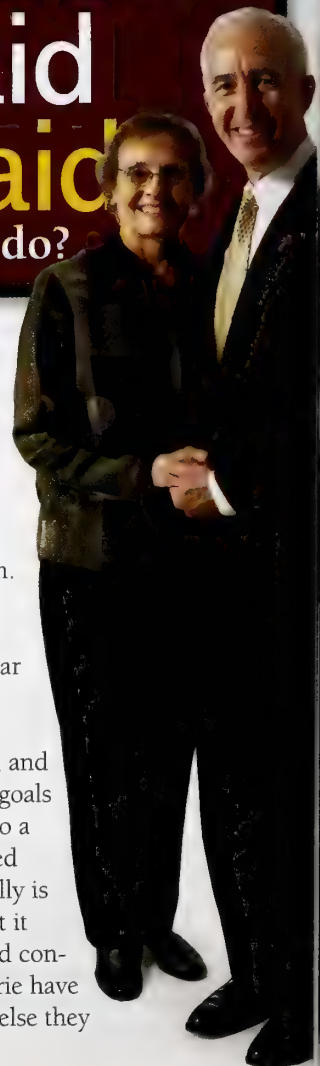
Jo Anne and I have had this discussion several times over the past few years as we plan for our retirement years. We are fortunate – not that we have found a solution yet, but that we started our discussion long before now. Of course, that doesn't help Carl and Marie as they are facing the crisis of



**He said  
She said  
what do they do?**

conflicting wants and desires head on. We all know that decisions made in the heat of the conflict aren't always the best decisions, but at least the conflict can end and life can begin again. Jo Anne and I know quite a few couples who have, or are currently facing, a similar unpleasant situation.

Carl and Marie need to modify their desires slightly, and they both can achieve their goals without driving a wedge into a relationship that has survived these many years. There really is a win-win solution here, but it takes the same flexibility and consideration that Carl and Marie have obviously experienced – or else they would not still be together.





The key is communication. Carl could suggest a short trip (give Marie several weeks to prepare) or let Marie pick the destination. Then – together – do the research and really make this a memorable trip. You could even take a couple of grandchildren along.

**As a married person, your focus should still be centered on your relationship with each other and not on your children or grandchildren.**

Jo Anne's comment to Marie is, "You go, girl!" Traveling with your spouse can be a lot of fun and it can be a great time to have uninterrupted talks. If Carl and Marie treat this traveling time like a special date, where you don't worry about the time, great memories can be created. Do something special each day for each other to let your beloved know you are happy to be in his or her presence. This is a new time in your life, enjoy the time together while you still can, because many other couples are denied this type of opportunity after retirement.

As a married person, your focus should still be centered on your relationship with each other and not on your children or grandchildren. Yes, they are fun to be around and are often enjoyable, but the most important persons in your life should be your spouse and God. When we focus on the good of our spouses, we are doing what God has intended us to do – serving him through loving and caring for each other.

– Tom and Jo Anne Fogle

## communication



## Good marriage

►► Are you finding the prospect of Thanksgiving and Christmas more stressful than exciting? Maybe you're dreading the overcommitted schedule that so often accompanies them. Spend some time talking with your spouse about what you really want this year. Together, you can find a way to make the holidays memorable.

## time

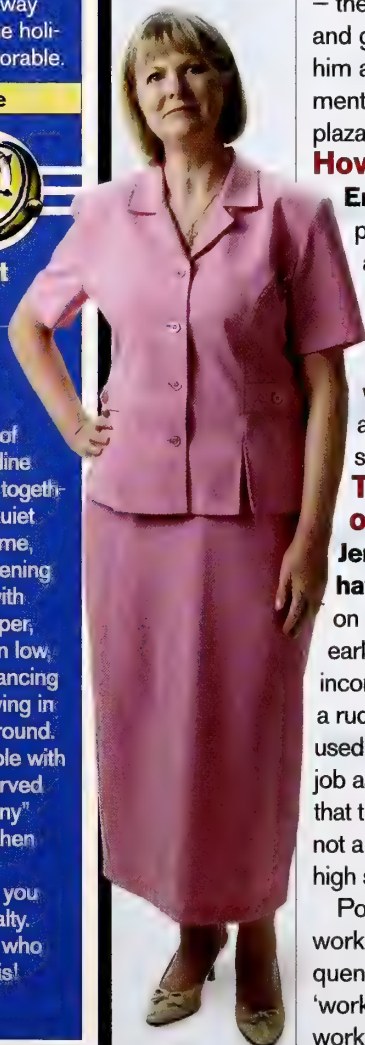


## It's about time!

►► It isn't necessary to spend lots of money to dine and dance together. In the quiet of your home, plan an evening together with a nice supper, lights down low, and soft dancing music playing in the background. Set the table with your "reserved for company" best, and then treat your spouse as you would royalty. For that is who he or she is!

## should I let my teen get a job?

**They put in 30 hours per week at school and many work an additional 15-20 hours at their jobs. Is this a good idea?**



**A** small café near our home comes to life early on Friday mornings during football season. The players' parents provide money for breakfast and also work as cooks, dishwashers and servers. As I delivered platters of food between the kitchen and the dining room, I realized I was moving between two worlds. Parents frequently knew their way around a restaurant because of part-time jobs earlier in life. Walking back into the dining room, I'd overhear snippets of conversation about weekend plans structured around the boys' jobs. We may ask ourselves, "Is it a good idea for high-school students to work?" **Encourage an employer that is a "good fit."** **"... what is to be the rule for the boy's life and work?"**

(Judges 13:12) Samson's father asked God for input about how he should bring up his son. Each of us would like to know what rules would be best for our children. If a fast-food restaurant closes at 10 p.m., the work day doesn't end then – there is cleanup, too. Could your child finish homework and get enough sleep to thrive at school with this job? Have him apply to businesses that fit his schedule and temperament. For example, my son, Ryan, found a deli shop in a plaza catering to an early crowd.

### How many hours?

**Employed teens tend to work long hours – they put in 30 hours per week at school and many work an additional 15-20 hours at their jobs. Is this a good idea?**

Ask yourself: What would she be doing if she weren't working? Playing video games? Participating in an after-school Model United Nations Program? Decide whether work is replacing a valuable extracurricular activity. Limit hours if homework or a healthy family and social life begin to suffer.

### Teaching them the value of a dollar or premature affluence?

**Jerald Bachman notes that many employed teens have too much money too soon.** Fewer families rely on adolescents' income to supplement their coffers than in earlier generations. Often, a teen's money is discretionary income, and adolescents are enthusiastic consumers. It can be a rude awakening as adults to find that paychecks have to be used for boring items, such as utilities and rent! Use your teen's job as a chance to encourage money management skills, so that the CD they want to purchase is a certificate of deposit and not a compact disc! If they don't learn to delay gratification in high school, they may resent having to do so later.

Pope John Paul II pointed out that Jesus was "a man of work, a craftsman like Joseph of Nazareth" and "... the eloquence of the life of Christ is unequivocal: He belongs to the 'working world,' he has appreciation and respect for human work." (*Laborem Exercens*, #118) – Dr. Cathleen McGreal



# How to handle road rage

and the other things that make us lose our cool



I was stuck in a two-mile traffic jam, with my family in the back seat. Fortunately, we were not in a rush and were chatting as we waited. A huge Mack truck was directly behind us. For some odd reason, the driver kept blowing his horn. There was nowhere to go – traffic was literally parked.

At first, we thought he might have been blowing his horn for kids in a car nearby. But after another 15 minutes, he kept it up! We wondered what was going on. But then, as unbelievable as it was – the truck smashed into us and began to push us off the road. Thank God I avoided missing the person directly in front of me by inches. I got out of the car and the truck driver was angry and confused. I asked him why he had just plowed into my car. He said his anger got the better of him. It sure did!

Now, my own patience was put to the test. We certainly let the man know how wrong his actions were, but thank God I was given the grace at that moment to keep my cool. His own anger was diffused as I listened to him. The Holy Spirit gives us special graces when we need them. I needed it right then. The police finally came and took care of things, and it ended much better than it could have had I gotten angry.

Patience gives us the ability to endure many things. It reveals a wonderful dimension of selfless love. A patient person is more interested in the one before him than in his own needs or interests. Usually we think of patience in opposition to anger. An impatient person tends to quickly respond to situations in angry ways. We use phrases like “blew up,” “flew off the handle,” “exploded”; or people as having “a short fuse” or being “hot headed” to describe a lack of patience in a person.

Patience is a virtue of the soul. Remember a



virtue is a habit of the heart – a way of thinking and acting in a consistent way that leads to specific behaviors that reveal Jesus Christ, in whom the fullness of all virtues reside.

St Paul reminds us all that “Love is patient and kind.” (1 Cor 13:4) Patience and many other virtues will grow in us as we love, for love exercises these virtues.

I knew of a woman who took care of her husband for many years as he suffered with Alzheimer’s disease. She had to keep her eye on him all the time, for he might decide to go out in the neighborhood for a walk and forget where or who he was. Each day brought new challenges. It was difficult, but she knew it was so important for her to fulfill her vows – “I promise to be

true to you in good times in bad, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health until death do us part.”

One day, her

**Patience gives us the ability to endure many things. It reveals a wonderful dimension of selfless love.**

husband got into some magazines and books that she had arranged and really made a mess of them. She got angry with him, then left the room to cool off. Her husband wandered in and said, “Oh there you are, my dear. It is so good to see you. Hey, if you go into the den, be careful. There is a strange woman in there, and boy is she mad.”

She was immediately hit with a sense of his love for her. What a humorous way to be reminded of the importance of patience. Her husband did not recognize her as the “angry” woman. He knew and remembered her as the woman who was patient.

Patience allows us to endure all the little inconveniences of life, and the difficult suffering that can come our way. No wonder there is the expression “he has the patience of Job!” Job was a man who suffered greatly. He lost all his family, his possessions and even his health. He was tempted to curse God and die. There are times when life presents horrible situations to us that would move us to being angry with God or others. How can a person endure except by God’s grace and love?

I got a call one day from the hospital of one of our parishioners. Their teenage son had just died from a rare form of encephalitis. He was probably bitten by a mosquito. He had been fine in the morning, but later that day he died. Many would be tempted to lose faith and turn away from God. Many would be tempted to be angry with God. Who could blame them? Martha and Mary seemed a little more than upset with Jesus when they sent word that Lazarus was ill and Jesus did not come. “If only you had been here Lord, our brother would not have died!” Anger

## Spiritual Exercise

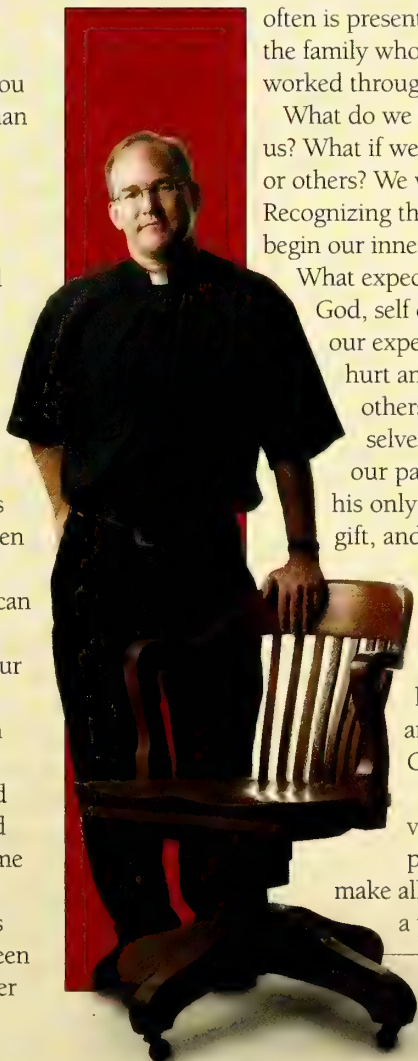
### Praying for the gift of patience

►► **This month, pray for the gift of patience. Be ready, for you might find yourself in a storm!**

In my life, I have noticed that when I ask for a gift, often a situation stands before me that will directly call that gift forth. For example, in praying for patience, I might end up in many situations that directly test my patience. Look at them all as great opportunities that are full of God’s help. One old saying is that “God does not give us anything more than we can handle.” Another way of looking at it is that God gives us the grace we need to handle whatever situation arises! One help to receiving patience is to recognize the opportunities one has to being patient. So, for the first exercise:

**1** Ask yourself what circumstances you face daily that test your patience. If another party is involved, sometimes we just look at them as the problem. Indeed, they may have a problem, but if we are not patient with them, so do we. How do you normally act? What would patience look like in your circumstance? Talk to the Lord about it. When you pray, think of Jesus. Think of his patience. How patient is the Lord in dealing with us! Make a decision to act patiently with others and yourself.

**2** At the end of the day, reflect on how well you did. When during the day were you patient or not? What can you learn about yourself through your impatience? What kind of expectations do you have concerning yourself or others? How patient do you believe God is?



often is present when tragedy strikes. In the case of the family who lost their son, they did struggle, but worked through their loss and anger.

What do we do if we recognize impatience within us? What if we have lost all patience with God, self or others? We want change and we want it now! Recognizing the anger and impatience within us can begin our inner healing. Our hearts need healing.

What expectations do we carry within us about God, self or others? Maybe we need to adjust our expectations? If we find ourselves mad, hurt and disappointed with God, self or others, we must cry out. We surrender ourselves to God who knows our hearts and our pain. Remember how the Father sent his only Son to us with great love, as a perfect gift, and we sent Jesus back to the Father, rejected and crucified. The Father allowed his only beloved Son to suffer and die on the cross. The Father understands the pain of devastating loss. Give it to him. We cannot bury and hide it from the Lord anyway! God knows our hearts.

Patience draws strength from the virtues of faith and hope as well, for patience always believes that God will make all things well in the end. Patience leads a person to inner peace.

– Father Bill Ashbaugh



## Parishioners respond to disaster victims

►► At the request of The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, parishes in the Diocese of Raleigh held a special collection for the victims of two natural disasters that took place in August. To date, parishes have reported a combined collection of \$99,677. The money will be sent to Catholic Relief Services, which is providing aid to victims in Peru and Mexico.

On August 15, an earthquake registering 8.0 rocked Peru destroying or damaging more than 35,000 homes, churches and buildings. More than 85,000 people were left homeless. The quake hit on the evening of the Feast of the Assumption when many people were in church for Mass. Of the 510 people reported dead, more than half were killed by crumbling church roofs.

Four days later, parts of Mexico were lashed by Hurricane Dean, a storm that reached Category 5 level before making landfall twice. The first time was on the Yucatan Peninsula. The weakened storm then hit land on the gulf coast north of Veracruz. Fortunately, the areas impacted by the storm were not heavily populated. Officials report 30 deaths with more than 90,000 homes damaged or destroyed, many belonging to the poor, living in poorly constructed dwellings.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the international humanitarian agency of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, was among the first aid agencies on the scene in Peru and Mexico. In the hours following the earthquake, CRS committed an initial \$100,000 for immediate assistance and launched an \$11 million appeal on behalf of the victims. In Mexico, CRS staff members were on the ground before the storm hit. In both locations, CRS staff was able to provide immediate assistance of food, clothing, drinkable water, shelter, blankets, cooking and hygiene kits and other essentials.

In addition to immediate assistance, CRS will be present to the victims for months to come, not only helping to rebuild homes, but rebuilding lives. Part of its mission is to assist those who may fall through the cracks during the recover process and to provide counseling to those who experiencing emotional trauma.

CRS, founded in 1943, works in 98 countries providing a variety of programs including agricultural education, peacebuilding, community health services and HIV/AIDS education and medicine.



Catechists completed their certification in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd course level I on Sunday, September 9 at Immaculate Conception in Durham. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is sponsored by the Diocesan Catechetical Institute through the Mary Dowling Endowment Fund. **Front row:** Elena Gutierrez, Veronica Simmons, Mary Sluka; **Middle Row:** Josep Colomer, Carol Selover, Claudine Dusablon; **Back Row:** Remedios Urban-Vazquez, Katushka Olave, Celerina Camacho, Jana Bennett, Betsy Flaherty, Jane Haga, Joan Donovan, Lourdes Vazquez (Spanish trainer); not pictured Lynne Worthington and Rick Kinsey (English trainers).

## St. Michael 24th Annual Thanksgiving Basket Project

►► St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Cary will once again be helping to make the holidays easier for some families and individuals in our community and surrounding areas with its 24th Annual Thanksgiving Basket project. The project is possibly the largest such effort in the area. Boxes donated by the Stephen Gould Corporation hold the large quantity of food provided to each individual or family for the holiday and beyond. A "grocery list" of needed items is distributed to individuals wishing to donate ensuring that each basket is packed equally. Many items have holiday flair but the boxes also include pantry staples like peanut butter, pasta and canned goods.

There are several ways to donate to the Project and all contributions are welcome:

- Purchase food items from the grocery list and bring them to St. Michael Church during the November 17 and 18 Masses. The list is available at St. Michael Church.
- Make a monetary contribution to St. Michael with Thanksgiving Basket Project noted in the memo line of the check. This money goes toward purchasing the turkeys as well as grocery items needed to complete and create more boxes to meet the current demand.

Over 300 volunteers from groups like the Knights of Columbus and Boy Scouts as well as parishioners and their friends will gather for the massive job of assembling and then distributing the boxes. In the meantime, many different groups within the St. Michael parish community play active roles. In particular, students from preschool through high school work in advance to collect food items and then decorate and assemble completed boxes. Approximately half of the demand is met through the efforts of these groups.

Recipients of the Thanksgiving Baskets are identified by referrals from ministries at St. Michael and local social service agencies throughout Wake County. All excess food after the boxes are assembled will be donated to various community food pantries.

**For information on how to donate or volunteer, call 919.468.6100.**







### Cathedral, Lourdes named Blue Ribbon Schools for 2007

►► The U.S. Department of Education Secretary Margaret Spellings announced Oct. 1 that Sacred Heart Cathedral Catholic School and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School, both in Raleigh, have been chosen as **National No Child Left Behind – Blue Ribbon Schools** for 2007. The two schools are among eight public and private schools recognized by the U.S. Department of Education this year.



First-graders Angelina Sena and Katelyn Cuomo.

#### The No Child Left Behind – Blue Ribbon Schools Program

honors public and private K-12 schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap or those whose students achieve at very high levels. The schools submit an extensive application and are selected by a panel based on one of the following criteria:

- A school has at least 40 percent of its students from disadvantaged backgrounds who have dramatically improved their performance in at least the past three years in reading and mathematics and are achieving at high levels.
- A school may be recognized if its students achieve at the highest levels, that is, if the school is in the top 10 percent of the schools in the nation in reading and mathematics in the last grade tested, as measured by an assessment referenced against national norms, or in the top 10 percent in its state as measured by a state test in at least the last grade tested.

Sacred Heart Cathedral School and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School are being recognized for high achievement. Along with test scores, the schools were evaluated on other measures such as overall school program, assessment, curriculum, instructional methods and professional development.

"This is a historic occasion for the Diocese of Raleigh," said Catholic School Superintendent Dr. Michael J. Fedewa. "Never before have two of our diocesan schools received this prestigious award in the same year."

The two schools are among the oldest in the Diocese of Raleigh, which serves 8,047 children of all faiths, ethnic origins, and economic backgrounds.

## Count to Ten!

"When was your patience tested?"

►► This month, we asked seventh and eighth graders at Blessed Sacrament School, Burlington, **"Tell about a situation or activity that tests your patience."**

#### David, Grade 7

When I am playing a video game and I have to wait until it loads.



#### Alyssa, Grade 7

I love drawing more than anything else. One thing that tests my patience is when the eyes don't match, or when arms are too long. But when my drawing is finished, it really pays off.



#### Marley, Grade 7

When it comes to forgetting things in my locker that I need for class, I lose all patience with myself!



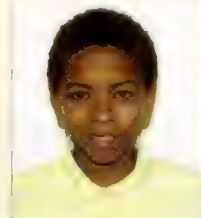
#### Christine, Grade 8

When I audition for a play or musical, it's hard to wait until the director posts the cast list. All the actors get cranky, and pray for the cast list to be posted.



#### Alex, Grade 7

Patience means more than to wait your turn at a store – it is how you wait. Rather than be mad that you're in a hurry, be patient about waiting.



#### Adam, Grade 8

Right before my sister had her baby, we had to wait a long time. That's hard to do when you're about to become an uncle!





## things to do:

**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour, 7–9 p.m. Nov. 2** at St. Mary Church in Goldsboro. The VHH is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. The VHHs are open to everyone, but they are certainly unique opportunities for men and women discerning a church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment. Next month's VHH will be held on Dec. 7 in the Piedmont Deanery.

**Catholic Golden Age** will meet at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 4, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Fallon Center, Raleigh. Call Mary Ruth at 217.9580 or Michaeline at 832.2974 for information regarding the meeting as well as CGA's 5:30 p.m. dinner get-togethers every third Thursday throughout the year.

### Just Life Speaker Series

- **11/7/07 - Session 2:** Dr. Anatheia Portier-Young, Prof. of Old Testament, Duke University, will speak on Scripture and Justice.
- **11/28/07 - Session 3:** Father David McBriar, OFM, St. Francis of Assisi Church, Raleigh, will speak on Saints and Justice.

### Wednesday Evenings at Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh.

All sessions begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and include the following: an introduction of the speaker and host group, a 45-minute talk by a prominent speaker, a Q&A session and a short fellowship, approximately 1.5 hours overall. The sessions will be held either in the parish church or Fallon Center (depending on the number of participants), and are open to all. Catholic school teachers and catechists may earn continuing education credits. Contact Robert Jones 919.821.9740 or e-mail [Rob.Jones@raldioc.org](mailto:Rob.Jones@raldioc.org).

### African Ancestry Day of

**Reflection, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 10,** at Our Lady of Lourdes Fallon Center, Raleigh. The day will start with an HIV/AIDS Prayer Breakfast. This event will address the concerns of HIV/AIDS in the African American community and Africa and how the Church can get involved and help. Cost: \$20 includes materials and meal.

### Loss as a Transformative Experience, Nov. 16-18, Christian Family Living Center, Topsail Island.

The weekend includes Celebration of the Eucharist and Sacrament of Reconciliation, presentations on loss, group sharing, private time, opportunity for healing touch and free time for relaxation. \$125/single room or \$100/shared room. For information call 910.328.1584 or download an application at [www.christianfamilyliving.com/res/Documents/2007retreatapplication.pdf](http://www.christianfamilyliving.com/res/Documents/2007retreatapplication.pdf).

### November Readings

#### Thursday, Nov. 1

*All Saints Day*  
Rv 7:2-4,9-14  
Ps 24:1-2,  
3-4,5-6  
1 Jn 3:1-3  
Mt 5:1-12a

#### Friday, Nov. 2

*All Souls' Day*  
Wis 3:1-9  
Ps 23:1-3a,  
ab-4,5,6  
1 Jn 3:1-3  
Mt 5:1-12a

#### Sunday, Nov. 4

*Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Wis 11:22-12:2  
Ps 145:1-2,8-9,10-11,13,14  
2 Thes 1:11-2:2  
Lk 19:1-10

#### Sunday, Nov. 11

*Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
2 Mc 7:1-2,9-14  
Ps 17:1,  
5-6,8,15(15b)  
2 Thes 2:16-3:5  
Lk 20:27-38 or  
20:27,34-38

#### Sunday, Nov. 18

*Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Mal 3:19-20a  
Ps 98:5-6,7-8,  
9  
2 Thes 3:7-12  
Lk 21:5-19

#### Sunday, Nov. 25

*Our Lord Jesus Christ the King Last Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
2 Sm 5:1-3  
Ps 122:1-2,  
3-4,4-5  
Col 1:12-20  
Lk 23:35-43

### Encountering and Sharing God's Word, 9 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Nov. 17,

at Newman Catholic Student Center, 218 Pittsboro St., Chapel Hill, is a workshop series that offers a method for discovering God's active presence in the Scriptures. It is presented and facilitated by Father Jude Siciliano, OP. Registration is \$30 per session. For more information contact Robert Jones at 919.821.9740 or e-mail [Rob.Jones@raldioc.org](mailto:Rob.Jones@raldioc.org).

### Challenge Retreat, 7 p.m. Nov. 30 -

11 a.m. Dec. 1 at locations in five deaneries: St. Paul, New Bern; St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fayetteville; Blessed Sacrament, Burlington; Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Newton Grove. Challenge is a Friday-Saturday overnight retreat for grades 6-8. The retreat focuses on community building, self-esteem, social justice, scripture and relationships with friends, family and Jesus. Offered at multiple sites on two different weekends this year. Contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or [hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:hagarty@raldioc.org).

### The Diocese of Raleigh Ecclesial Lay Ministers (RELM) will sponsor the Celebration of Lay Ministry at

10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1, at St. Raphael Church, Raleigh. Mass with Bishop Burbidge will include special recognition of all those celebrating retirement or anniversaries of 10 years or more as lay ecclesial ministers in the Diocese. The Bishop will then join the participants for brunch followed by a presentation on Bishop Burbidge's vision of lay ecclesial ministry. Advance registration is required; e-mail [register@raldioc.org](mailto:register@raldioc.org). There is a fee of \$10 for those who are not members of RELM. Contact the Office for Lay Ministry at 919.821.9715 or e-mail [bea.callery@raldioc.org](mailto:bea.callery@raldioc.org).

## Upcoming events at Avila Retreat Center

To register or for more information, call 919.477.1285  
[www.avila-retreat-center.com](http://www.avila-retreat-center.com)

### ► Carmelite Retreat

The Secular (Third) Order Discalced Carmelites are sponsoring a silent retreat Nov. 9-11, 2007 at the Avila Retreat Center. The retreat master will be Father Regis Jordan, OCD. The topic will be "The Beatitudes" in Scripture and the writings of Carmelite saints. Cost for the weekend

is \$160. The retreat will include Adoration and opportunities for Confession and spiritual direction. Everyone is welcome. Every retreatant will have a private room. To register send a check for \$50 payable to OCDS to Sandra Malkovsky, 7134 Eastridge Drive, Apex, NC 27539. For more information, call 919.772.2067 or e-mail [Sandra@Malkovsky.org](mailto:Sandra@Malkovsky.org).





**Search #149**, 7 p.m. Dec. 7 -2 p.m. Dec. 9 at Short Journey Center, Smithfield, is a weekend retreat for 11th through 12th grade youth. Activities encourage self-discovery and reflection on relationships with others and with God. This is a peer-led retreat as the Search "team" is made up of other teens. These past Searchers model leadership, faith sharing and ministry with their peers. Adults in youth ministry also attend and participate in Search. Searches usually fill up quickly, so sign up for the earliest date possible to ensure yourself a space. For information contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or [hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:hagarty@raldioc.org).

**Advent – Preparing the Way of the Lord**, Dec. 7-9 at the Christian Family living Center, Topsail Island. All ages are invited to this special weekend focusing on what is most important in the celebration of the Christmas season. Family activities include making Luminaries, baking cookies and singing Christmas carols. \$110 for ages 8 and older. \$75 for ages 2-7. For information, call 910.328.1584 or download an application at [www.christianfamilyliving.com/res/Documents/2007retreatapplication.pdf](http://www.christianfamilyliving.com/res/Documents/2007retreatapplication.pdf).

**St. Thomas More School**, 920 Carmichael St. (off 15-501/Fordham Blvd.), Chapel Hill, will hold its annual **"Holiday Shoppe" craft show** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1, in the school gym. Featuring more than 50 vendors, a wide variety of unique, handmade items will be for sale along with a raffle, musical entertainment, free gift wrapping and a hot lunch. Admission is free. All proceeds benefit St. Thomas More School. Please contact Joanne Vance at 919.490.8493 for more information.

Mark your calendars! The Fayetteville Office of Catholic Charities will be having its fourth annual fundraiser, **"A Chocolate Affair...To Remember,"** on Saturday, Jan. 26, at St. Ann Church in Fayetteville, NC. The event features an array of chocolate goodies, both silent and live auctions of celebrity, sports items and vacation packages, etc. Donations for the upcoming event would be appreciated. Contact: Lou Orban, Regional Director, Catholic Charities of Fayetteville at 910.424.2020 for pickup or more information.

**Voices of Advent:** John, Mary, Joseph: 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4. No one prepared for the birth of Jesus better than John the Baptist, Mary and Joseph. These three challenge us to re-imagine Advent. John knows who he is, Joseph decides to live with mystery, Mary proclaims a new era in the human family. Find out the prominent role each plays in the birth of a savior who will change the world. **Presenter:** Father John Gillespie, M.Div., M.A., Parochial Vicar, Infant of Prague Catholic Church, Jacksonville, NC. **Donation:** \$30 (includes lunch).

## Is it greedy to go for that promotion?



**Frank has had his current job for many years, and he's repeatedly been offered other positions with more responsibility, but he's turned them down.**

**F**rank says: *I'm comfortable where I am, and I'm not looking for any new challenges. Although I do see problems in the management ranks that I know I could solve, ambition for position or money is not what God wants us to pursue. I don't want to get stuck in the hassle of politics in management. So, I enjoy where I am I don't want all that responsibility and attention.*

### The expert says:

On the surface, Frank sounds like a humble man who is content where is and isn't tempted by position or money. On the other hand, Frank may have allowed himself to become complacent by not taking full advantage of his talents for the greater well-being of people around him. In his book *Good to Great*, Jim Collins addresses this danger by saying, "Few people attain great lives, in large because it is just so easy to settle for a good life" (p. 1). We settle for pleasant, comfortable lives, avoiding the greatness we've been called to in building God's kingdom. Collins says that good is the enemy of great. This is exactly what Christ teaches in the parable of the talents. The master rewards the servants who took a chance, invested their talents and multiplied wealth; but admonishes the servant who buried his one talent because he was afraid to risk losing it. Christ calls him lazy and wicked. Likewise, God admonishes us for not investing

in the talents He's provided us to build His kingdom.

While he believes he is being good and humble, Frank may actually be neglecting God's call. Frank could do much more in serving others by taking a position of greater responsibility, but he's afraid because it is outside his comfort zone, and he doesn't want to lose the comfort he has established.

Are you living up to God's expectations? **You might ask yourself the following questions to reflect on how God may be calling you:**

- **Are you focused** primarily on maintaining your comfortable life; afraid to try something new?
- **Have you been blessed** with gifts or talents that you are not using or investing in serving others?
- **Do you realize** that your gifts and talents are not yours, but they're God's, and you have responsibility to invest them as God would?
- **Do you pray** daily to align your motives and desires with God's expectations?

– Tim Ryan



## St. Mary Magdalene teacher publishes children's books

**D**r. Rosy Wafflestone burst into tears on what should have been the happiest day of her life! Dr. Rosy Wafflestone was a world famous historian and the mother of Roxanne Adrianna Wafflestone.

So begins the first book in a projected 20-story series of children's books written and illustrated by Sherry Cutrer, who teaches seventh and eighth grade Literature at St. Mary Magdalene School in Apex. Along with Amanda Cadran, her editor, teaching colleague and "moral support," Ms. Cutrer spoke with NC Catholics about the project, which she says started with a love of literature, culture, knowledge and travel. An active volunteer for the refugee community, Sherry's experiences working with refugees from Africa, Southeast Asia and Eastern Europe have also fueled her desire to write about places not well-known to most young readers.

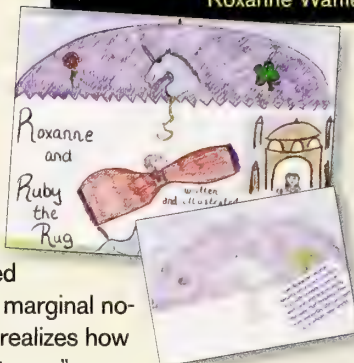
"After I wrote the first story, I asked Amanda for feedback" she says, smiling and showing a manuscript crowded with proofreader's marks and marginal notations. "I don't think she fully realizes how much her support has meant to me."

When the aspiring author looked into the economics of working through an established children's publisher, hiring an illustrator and inducing book retailers to carry her work on their shelves, she started her own publishing company, From Me to You Stories ([www.frommetoyoustories.com](http://www.frommetoyoustories.com)), and illustrated the books herself with her young readers in mind. Today the books are available through major bookstore Web sites, as well as directly from the publisher.

The first volume, *Roxanne and the Ruby Rug*, introduces a "perfectly organized" 7-year-old girl whose "very scheduled" life is suddenly disrupted by her mother's opportunity for a scholarly trip around the world. "Roxanne hates change," Ms. Cutrer explains, "so the



Amanda Cadran, editor, and Sherry Cutrer, author and illustrator. Inset: Front and back covers for the first story in the Roxanne Wafflestone series.

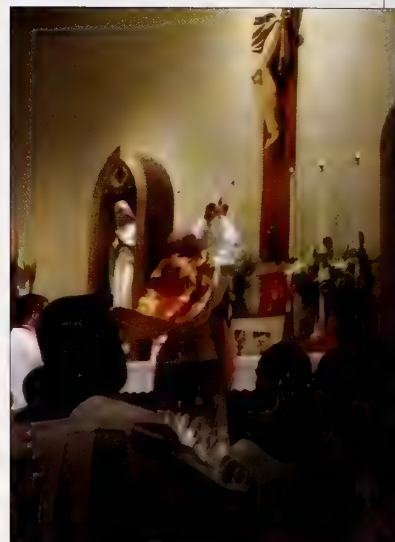


book at the beginning is about non-selfish adapting to circumstances and a positive attitude – being able to see change as adventure." With the help of a friendly flying carpet, Roxanne journeys to Istanbul where she makes a friend named

Sophia, the first of many novel acquaintances she will strike up in her travels.

"Book 2, the most recent release, is called *Roxanne and George the Green Genie*," Ms. Cutrer says, "and begins in Istanbul at the Hagia Sophia. It discusses the role of a curator in a museum and artifacts that could exist in the areas of Turkey and Greece. Book 3 will take Roxanne to two more exotic places - the Rock of Gibraltar and Morocco."

The books are aimed at readers in grades 2-4, and there are audio CDs to assist the younger children. St. Mary Magdalene students who have read and listened to Roxanne's adventures have done artwork for the series Web site and contributed voices for characters in the audio versions.



## Forma Extraordinaria celebrated in Dunn

▶▶ On Sept. 14 the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, Mass was celebrated at Sacred Heart Church in Dunn in the *Forma extraordinaria*, sometimes called the Tridentine Mass. This liturgy was addressed in Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Letter *Summorum Pontificum*, in which the Holy Father directed that it be made available to the faithful.

Father Paul Parkerson, pastor of Sacred Heart, was the celebrant. The Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of the Diocese of Raleigh, was the homilist.

"My brothers and sisters," the Bishop said in his homily, "our Diocese must be known for its unity." The Bishop said his hope and prayer is that the faithful of the Diocese grow together in "a way that reflects the Holy Father's vision that our one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church continues on a path of reform and renewal."

Bishop Burbidge repeated his commitment to "do everything possible to implement the *Motu proprio*."

"To do so," the Bishop added, "I will need the assistance of our priests. I am grateful to Father Parkerson and others, who will make the *Forma extraordinaria* available at locations throughout the Diocese."





## Appreciation for Women Religious

►► On Sept. 15, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, the Bishop Michael Burbidge celebrated an Appreciation Day for Women Religious at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh. The day began with a Mass in the high school chapel, offered by Bishop Burbidge for the women religious of the diocese, and especially for the late Sister M. Blaise Semple of Sanford.

The theme of the Bishop's homily was unity with Mary in suffering and in joy. At the end of the Mass, Sister Shirley Simpson, of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, spoke of her congregation's special devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows, and of the beatification going on as she was speaking in LeMans, France, of the congregation's founder, Blessed Basil Anthony-Marie Moreau.



## Bishop announces 2008 pilgrimage to National Shrine in Washington, DC

►► On Sept. 10 in a letter to the faithful of the Diocese of Raleigh, Bishop Michael Burbidge announced a Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., to begin on Saturday, April 12, 2008. "At the request of the third Bishop of Raleigh, Most Reverend Vincent S. Waters, Pope Pius XII in 1955 dedicated the Diocese of Raleigh to Our Lord under the Patronage of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary," the Bishop wrote. "[So] it is only good and proper that we should make a pilgrimage to Her National Shrine."

The Bishop appointed Monsignors Thomas Hadden and Gerald Lewis, Father JaVan Saxon, Father Scott McCue, Father Joseph Vetter, Brother Giovanni Ada, CICM and Michael Hagarty to the Pilgrimage Planning Committee with Monsignor Lewis and Father Saxon serving as the co-chairs. The committee will coordinate with the deans, pastors, pastoral administrators and parish promoters to assure the greatest participation of the faithful in the pilgrimage.

## Groundbreaking for new St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Raeford

►► In a bilingual ceremony, priests of the diocese and parishioners from St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Raeford, broke ground for a new church on Sept. 17.

## Diocese hosts Regional Social Ministry Training

►► Approximately 150 people representing six Catholic dioceses in the Mid-Atlantic Region attended a three-day gathering, Sept. 28-30 at the Fallon Center at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Raleigh. The event was co-sponsored by Catholic Charities USA, the Office of Peace and Justice of the Diocese of Richmond and Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh.

The theme of the event was "Our Faith, Our Lives, Our World." Those attending represented parishes in the (Arch)dioceses of Atlanta, Savannah, Richmond, Arlington, Charleston and Raleigh, as well as Catholic Charities administrative staff from the national organization and regional offices. The focus of the gathering was to provide information and to share resource material to assist parishes in reaching out to those in need and working on behalf of the disadvantaged and oppressed. Workshop topics included "Immigration and Catholic Social Teaching," "Reducing Poverty in the United States," "Faithful Citizenship: Organizing for Advocacy," "Promoting Peace in a Time of War," and "Congregation Based Community Organizing."

The event began Friday evening with Rev. Bryan Massingale, S.T.D., Associate Professor of Theology at Marquette University, speaking on "Our Baptismal Call." On Saturday morning, Jack Jezreel, executive director of JustFaith Ministries of Louisville, Ky., used the Word and the writings of Church leaders to show the foundational messages of love, justice and peace that lead us to be better disciples of Christ. His talk is titled "Our Prophetic Teaching." The main presenter at Sunday's closing session was Marie Dennis, director of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, speaking on "Our Spirituality Connection to Justice."

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Vigil Mass for the gathering. He noted that the Diocese was blessed to serve as host for this important program: "May these days of training," the Bishop said, "be a time of personal growth and a time of grace for your particular ministry."



Attendees at the Parish Social Ministry Training Conference listen to presenter Jack Jezreel, executive director of JustFaith Ministries.



# Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

## UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title NC Catholics		2. Publication Number 7 1 5 - 9 4 0		3. Filing Date Sept. 27, 2007	
4. Issue Frequency Monthly; except combined issues during January/February and July/August		5. Number of Issues Published Annually 10		6. Annual Subscription Price \$16.00	
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 715 Nazareth Street Raleigh, North Carolina 27606				Contact Person Holly Stringer Telephone (include area code) (919) 821-9730	
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) same as above					
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)					
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Bishop Michael F. Burbidge Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27606					
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Richard Reece Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27606					
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Frank Morock, Director of Communications Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27606					
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)					
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address			
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None					
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address			
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)					
PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 1 of 3) (Instructions Page 3) PSN 7530-01-000-9901 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com					

13. Publication Title NC Catholics		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below September 2007	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation All Registered Households		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		70,000	
(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)		67,978	
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)		68,517	
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®			
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)			
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		67,978	
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		1,432	
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		1,500	
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)			
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)			
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), and (4))		1,432	
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		69,410	
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		448	
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		69,858	
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		98%	
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the November 2007 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required			
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Richard Reece, Editor		Date Sept. 27, 2007	
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).			
PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)			

# STOCK GIFTS

We have improved our website to facilitate your obtaining required information to make a stock donation to the Diocese of Raleigh. Our stock donation instruction form (including our current account number) is available on our website at:

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

Once on the website homepage, select "Philanthropy."

The stock donation form is located in the "Other Ways to Give" section of the "Philanthropy Overview."

Please fully complete the two page form and provide it directly to your broker to execute your transaction.

We can not execute transactions on your behalf. In addition, please send a copy of the completed form to the Diocese at the address listed on the form.

If you have any difficulty obtaining the form from the website or have any questions, please contact:  
Gary Lambert • (919) 821-9722 • [lambert@raldioc.org](mailto:lambert@raldioc.org)

Thank You!

your church at your fingertips

- breaking, detailed diocesan news
- complete events calendar
- podcasting
- parish links
- Bishop's weekly gospel reflections - video and print versions

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)



**Bernadi Woodart Comes to the U.S. for their Premier!**

After over 4 centuries of adorning the homes, churches and cathedrals of Europe, one of Italy's most renowned religious artwork studios is coming to In His Name Catholic Store for their first ever U.S. showing.

**In His Name**  
"Your Catholic Store"

Newton Square Center  
240 Newton Road  
Raleigh, NC  
(just off Six Forks Rd)

Join Us  
**SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 3rd**  
10 AM - 6 PM



[www.inhisname.com](http://www.inhisname.com)



# YEAR END GIVING...



*Fall* has traditionally been the busiest season of the year for giving as people review their finances and take steps to complete the gifts they intend to make before year's end. The Catholic Church has many giving opportunities for your year end giving. If you would like to make a gift or want information on gift types please check the appropriate box below and Debbie Rossi will follow up with you.

*Thank you.*

**Plan  
Today  
for the  
Best  
Results**

## Outright Gifts

- ☐ Cash
- ☐ Stock (please send stock transfer instructions)
- ☐ Real Estate

## Planned Gifts

- ☐ Bequest (please send legal language)
- ☐ Charitable Gift Annuity
- ☐ Charitable Remainder Trust
- ☐ Life Insurance Policy
- ☐ IRAs and Retirement Plans

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to:

Debbie Rossi, Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606

Email: [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org) Telephone: (919) 821-9721 [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

# Coming Soon... Going Fast!



The exciting Pennybyrn at Maryfield is 86% reserved —

that means only a few more can take advantage of pre-opening pricing. Will you be one of them?

This architecturally stunning new community is scheduled to open in Winter of 2007. An active, modern lifestyle that offers you gorgeous private residences, superior amenities and a professional staff to provide unparalleled services...it's the retirement lifestyle that you've been waiting for!

*Don't let this opportunity pass you by. Call (336) 821-4050 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 today...prices will never be this low again!*



**PENNYBYRN**  
at MARYFIELD

A Retirement Living Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260  
[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

NP/NCC/Urg0807





"No one has greater love than this,  
to lay down one's life for one's friends."

John 15:13



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
**RALEIGH**  
OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

Discerning a vocation? Contact Fr. Ned Shlesinger at 919.832.6280 or [shlesinger@raldioc.org](mailto:shlesinger@raldioc.org)



**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.orgf](http://www.NCCatholics.orgf)



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514

35737

P 12 1290

SERIALS DEPARTMENT

33434

CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY

CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

December 2007

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

since you asked...

**Dear NCC:**  
What is meant by  
the Immaculate  
Conception?

work life

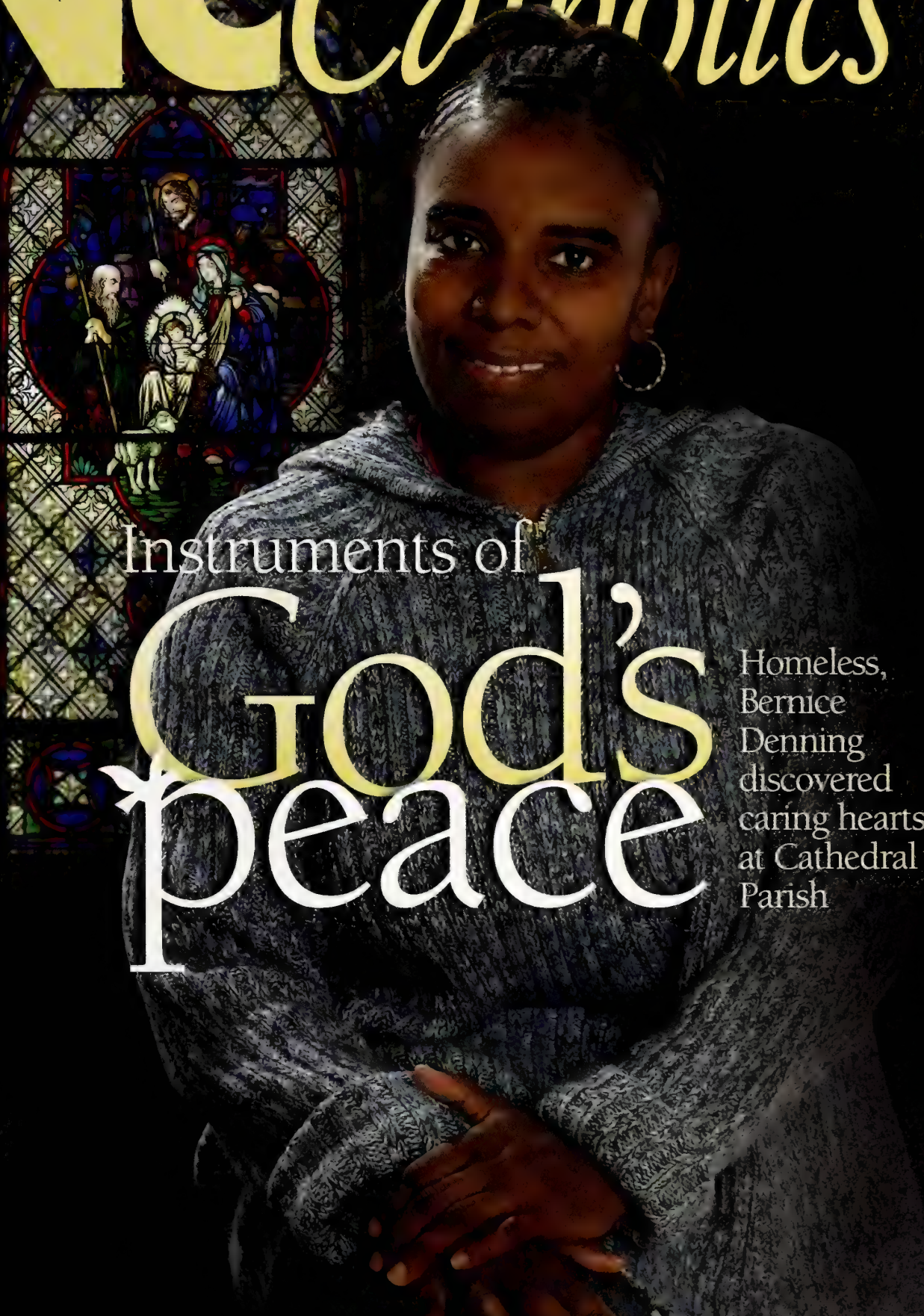
I had an accident  
and I can't do  
this job anymore  
— how to handle  
sudden changes  
in plan.

parish profile

A Tale of Two  
Counties  
St. James,  
Henderson

## Instruments of God's peace

Homeless,  
Bernice  
Denning  
discovered  
caring hearts  
at Cathedral  
Parish





**I**n the month of December, we receive many invitations to various events and celebrations. I also write to you extending invitations, ones which provide you with opportunities to experience abundant spiritual blessings, to witness on behalf of human life and to reflect your love for our Blessed Mother.

In Jesus Christ alone do we find genuine peace. We celebrate this precious gift especially in the sacred seasons of Advent and Christmas. I invite you to experience the Lord's peace in the beautiful Sacrament of Penance. Give to the Lord all of your sins, for they keep us from being at peace with God, ourselves and one another. Experience the infinite mercy of God, who forgives you and offers new life. What a beautiful way to prepare our hearts for the celebration of His birth!

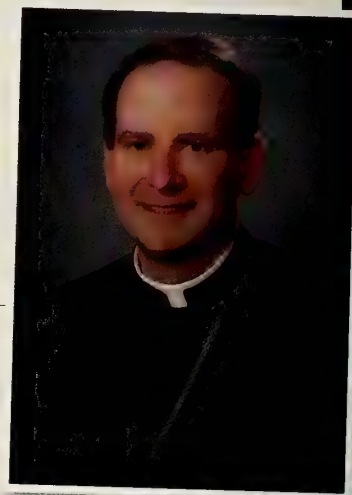
I also invite you to be reconciled with any family member or friend with whom you are no longer in harmony. Mindful of the Lord's generosity in forgiving us, take the initiative to offer forgiveness to anyone who has offended you. In experiencing the Lord's forgiveness in our lives and sharing that with others, we come to know His peace in a powerful way.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child, Son of God, Son of Mary, we renew our profound reverence for the gift of life. Sadly, our world fails to recognize the sacredness of all human life from the moment of conception to natural death. Thus, our public witness is essential. I invite you to make plans to participate in the **Rally for Life in Raleigh on Jan. 12** and in the **March for Life in Washington on Jan. 22**. On the morning of Jan. 22, Bishop Jugis and I will offer Mass in the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception for all the faithful of the Diocese of Charlotte and the Diocese of Raleigh. It is my hope that there will be tremendous representation from our Diocese as we thank God for the gift of life and pray for the unborn and all those who cannot protect themselves.

In this month of December in which we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and Christmas, we renew our love for the Blessed Mother and pray for the grace to imitate her profound trust in God and total submission to His will. Our Diocese is under the patronage of the Immaculate Conception. Thus, how appropriate it is for us to make a **Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception on April 12, 2008** (details enclosed within the magazine). I invite you to participate in this spiritual journey, which will be filled with abundant graces and blessings. Perhaps this also could be a Christmas gift you give to someone you love!

It is my hope that you seriously consider these invitations and avoid sending "regrets"! It is also my fervent prayer that throughout the Season of Advent and especially on Christmas Day and throughout the Christmas season, you come to celebrate anew the genuine and abiding peace of Jesus Christ, Son of God, Son of Mary. **Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us now and always!**

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is Bishop of Raleigh.



**Holy Mary,  
Mother of God,  
Pray for us!**





cover story

**Instruments of God's peace**

Homeless, Bernice Denning discovered caring hearts at Cathedral Parish

— Rich Reece

el hispano católico



**16** el hispano católico

**"Instrumentos de la paz de Dios"**

Bernice Denning los descubrió en la Catedral de la parroquia

— Rich Reece

**18** Ya que usted lo pregunta... ¿Podría explicar el significado de la Inmaculada Concepción?

— Padre Bill McConville, O.F.M.

**19** Obispo Burbidge ¡Santa María, Madre de Dios, Ruega por Nosotros!

— Obispo Michael F. Burbidge



**inside**  
what you'll get  
out of this issue

**from the bishop**

**2** Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us! — Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

**since you asked ...**

**6** Dear NCC: What is meant by the Immaculate Conception?  
— Father Bill McConville, OFM

**from the editor**

**7** Peace on Earth? — Rich Reece

**theology 101**

**8** Why is Jesus the best teacher?  
— Elizabeth Solsburg

**voices in our church**

**11** Blessed by diversity  
— Msgr. Thomas Hadden

**11** En Navidad  
— Padre Fernando Torres

**spiritual fitness**

**20** Praying in the style of Mary — reflecting on God's Word: *Lectio Divina*  
— Father Bill Ashbaugh

**parish poll**

**25** Raise your voices! "What is your favorite Christmas song?"

**work life**

**27** I had an accident and I can't do this job anymore — how to handle sudden changes in plan. — Tim Ryan



**parish profile**

**30** A Tale of Two Counties: St. James, Henderson — Rich Reece



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

December 2007 • Vol. 3 : Issue 10

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Ann Marie DiSerafino  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Dana Lorelle  
Father Bill McConville, OFM  
Father Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

Denmark Photo & Video (cover)  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vicki Bedard  
DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING

Jillane Job  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Enomhen Odigie  
Lynne Ridenour  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Betsy Miner  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Michelle Sessions Difranco  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. © 2005 FAITH Publishing Service™ Catholic Diocese of Lansing. © 2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730

## Benefit for Life attracts record turnout

▶▶ More than 500 people attended the annual Benefit for Life Gala at the Raleigh Hilton Hotel on Thursday, Oct. 25. The crowd included two bishops, more than a dozen priests of the diocese and guests from parishes and other churches. This year's benefit was twice as large as the 2006 event.

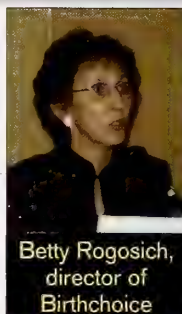
The benefit included a reception, dinner and an auction and raised funds for four pro-life efforts: Birthchoice, a pro-life pregnancy counseling service and medical clinic offering practical alternatives to women facing a crisis pregnancy; The Gabriel Project, which mentors and provides assistance and spiritual direction to Birthchoice clients and other agency clients before and after their child is born; Project Rachel, a post-abortive healing ministry for women and men; and Family Honor, which helps parents and children communicate on life issues, with a special emphasis on chastity and God's gift of sexuality.

Father James F. Gameau served as master of ceremonies for the event, and Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, was the guest speaker. Bishop Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman was also in attendance. Following presentations by Betty Rogosich, director of Birthchoice, and Jacqueline Bonk, director of Project Rachel, a memorial prayer service was conducted by Father Richard P. Rohrer, pastor of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Church in Cary.

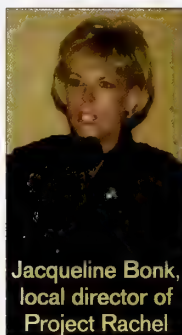
In her remarks, Mrs. Rogosich spoke of the recently installed ultrasound machine and monitor at Birthchoice, which enables mothers contemplating abortion to see their children in the womb. Mrs. Rogosich said that this experience, made possible in great part by contributions at last year's benefit, had influenced 65 percent of "abortion-minded" women entering the clinic to keep their babies.

Bishop Burbidge described the turnout as "truly an inspiration and a very proud moment for me."

"We are the only voice these children have in their struggle to find a life and a home," he said to the attendees, "and I want to express my profound thanks for your daily witness as people who proclaim the Gospel of life."



Betty Rogosich,  
director of  
Birthchoice



Jacqueline Bonk,  
local director of  
Project Rachel

## Raleigh Diocese in "Full Compliance" with Child Protection Charter

▶▶ The Diocese of Raleigh has been informed that an audit conducted on behalf of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has found the Diocese to be in "full compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*."

The independent audit was conducted by the Gavin Group as part of the commitment made by the USCCB in 2002 in the wake of the clergy sex abuse crisis. Since 2003, independent audits have been conducted of dioceses on a regular basis to ensure compliance with the 13 articles of the charter pertaining to accountability to individuals who report sexual misconduct of clergy regarding a child or young person. The accountability includes outreach to the individual and protection of the rights of all those involved. The Diocese of Raleigh has been found to be in compliance with each audit conducted.

The most recent audit, performed Sept. 24-27, 2007, included a review of records relating to the charter's articles and the diocese's Safe Environment Program. The auditor met individually with Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, vicar general Father David Brockman, chief operating officer Russell Elmayan, diocesan Safe Environment coordinator John Pendergrass and other diocesan officials.

"The official news that the Diocese of Raleigh is in full compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* reflects the commitment of my predecessor, Bishop Joseph Gossman, and so many people in our diocese who diligently created programs and procedures to provide a safe environment for our children and young people," Bishop Burbidge said.

"The official notification of full compliance is a great testimony to the success of these programs and procedures in our diocese, but it is also a challenge, as safeguarding our children and young people never ends," the Bishop added. "So, we must always be vigilant in how we serve our children, young people and all those entrusted to our pastoral and spiritual care. As Bishop, I renew the commitment of the Diocese of Raleigh to be ever faithful to the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* as we fulfill our dedication to the mission of Christ."

your church  
at your fingertips

- ▶ breaking, detailed diocesan news
- ▶ complete events calendar
- ▶ podcasting ▶ parish links
- ▶ Bishop's weekly gospel reflections - video and print versions

www.dioceseofraleigh.org



## Triangle Korean Catholic Community welcomes Bishop

► In October, Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Mass with the Triangle Korean Catholic Community. The

Mass was held at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Cary, which has served as home for the community since it began in 1990. The community has a rectory in New Hill, which provides space for other parish meetings and functions.

Chuang Ji, chair of the Korean Community's pastoral council, said the community is growing with 150 registered households. He explained that approximately 50 percent are permanent residents of North Carolina, with the remainder residing in the area for several years while taking undergraduate or graduate courses at local universities or being employed at the universities or companies in Research Triangle Park.

The pastor of the Triangle Community is Father Choong Sup Kim. In addition to celebrating a weekly 7:30 p.m. Saturday Korean Mass at St. Michael Church, Father Kim also celebrates a Korean Mass twice a month at St. Mary Church in Goldsboro.

The Triangle Korean Catholic Community is one of two in the diocese. The other is in Fayetteville.



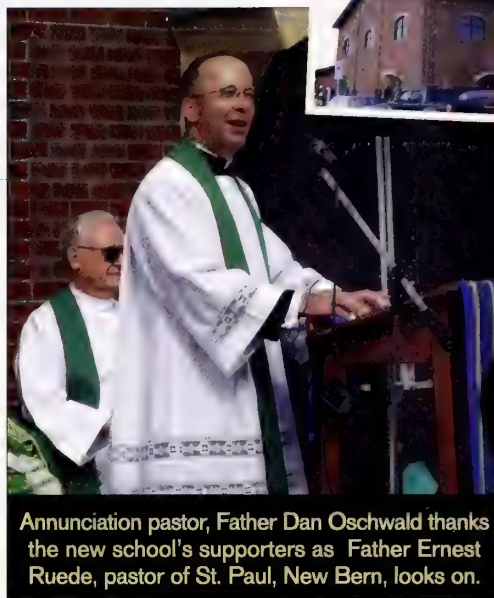
## Annunciation, Havelock opens new school

►► A dream came true for Annunciation Parish in Havelock on Sunday, Oct. 28, when Bishop Michael F. Burbidge blessed and dedicated its new parish school. The dedication was the culmination of efforts by the parish and the Diocese of Raleigh to finance and build the sparkling new facility, which will accommodate students in pre-school through eighth grade, and includes a media center, computer lab, science lab, art room and gym. Annunciation was one of five parish schools whose debt was forgiven by Bishop F. Joseph Gossman in 2005, making it possible for the parish to accelerate fundraising for the new school.

The day began with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Burbidge, with Annunciation pastor Father Dan Oswald, Father William P. Lesak, catholic chaplain at the Marine Corps Air Station in Cherry Point, and Father Miles Barrett, also from the base but visiting from Iraq, where he is currently deployed, concelebrating.

At the Mass, Bishop Burbidge presented certificates of papal blessing to three parishioners — Scott Baker, Ed Jacques and Mel Wetzel — who were pioneers in the original educational effort at Annunciation.

Following Mass, parishioners gathered outdoors in front of the new school for a service of blessing and dedication. Bishop Burbidge was then given the keys to the school and entered, blessing each room in the structure. Remarks and presentations by Father Oswald, including a special appreciation to Mrs. June Pietras, principal of Annunciation School, followed, after which all in attendance joined for a luncheon in the new school.



Annunciation pastor, Father Dan Oswald thanks the new school's supporters as Father Ernest Ruede, pastor of St. Paul, New Bern, looks on.



## Saint Mark hosts Hispanic Heritage celebration

► The annual Hispanic Heritage Mass was held Saturday, Oct. 13, at St. Mark Church in Wilmington, with an estimated 750 people in attendance. Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge

presided. This was the first time the Bishop celebrated Mass in Spanish. Father Patrick Keane, diocesan vicar for Hispanics, was the homilist.

The theme of this year's celebration was "The Family Is Enriched Through Faith and Tradition." In his remarks at the conclusion of Mass, Bishop Burbidge described the strong family values in the Latino culture as a gift to each other and to the larger community.

In his homily, Father Keane said, "We live in a culture that's been called a culture of death. A culture where babies in their mother's wombs, the elderly

who are in nursing homes and hospitals, and the prisoners in jails are in danger because the world does not see them through the eyes of God. One of the exemplary characteristics of the Latin culture is the emphasis on the family and the importance of each and every member, from the children to the grandparents who guard their values and traditions in their hearts."

►► For more news from the Diocese of Raleigh please visit: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news)



# Dear NCC

This month with Father William McConville, O.F.M.

**Dear NCC:** A friend told me that the Immaculate Conception means Mary was a virgin when Jesus was born. I think my friend is wrong. **Could you explain what is meant by the Immaculate Conception?**

**M**any people do indeed confuse the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary with the creedal affirmation of the virginal conception of Jesus. The latter quite simply means that Jesus was conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary through the power of the Holy Spirit and without the intervention of a human father. The “infancy narratives” of both the Gospels of Matthew and Luke give witness to this great mystery of faith.

The Immaculate Conception of Mary, defined by Blessed Pius IX in 1854 as a dogma of the Church, affirms that Mary “was, from the first moment of her conception, by the singular grace and privilege of Almighty God and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ the Savior of the human race, preserved from all stain of original sin.” In other words, Mary’s Immaculate Conception was a unique gift of grace given to her because of the extraordinarily important role she was destined to play in the history of salvation. Although the dogma cannot be found explicitly in the Scriptures, the angel Gabriel’s greeting to Mary that she is “full of grace” is certainly suggestive in this regard. The dogma, however, has a long history in the living tradition of the Church, both liturgically and theologically.

**Mary's Immaculate Conception was a unique gift of grace given to her because of the extraordinarily important role she was destined to play in the history of salvation.**

One of the great axioms of the Catholic tradition is that the “law of praying is the law of believing.” What we believe as Catholic Christians is rooted in what we pray. It is significant that a feast in

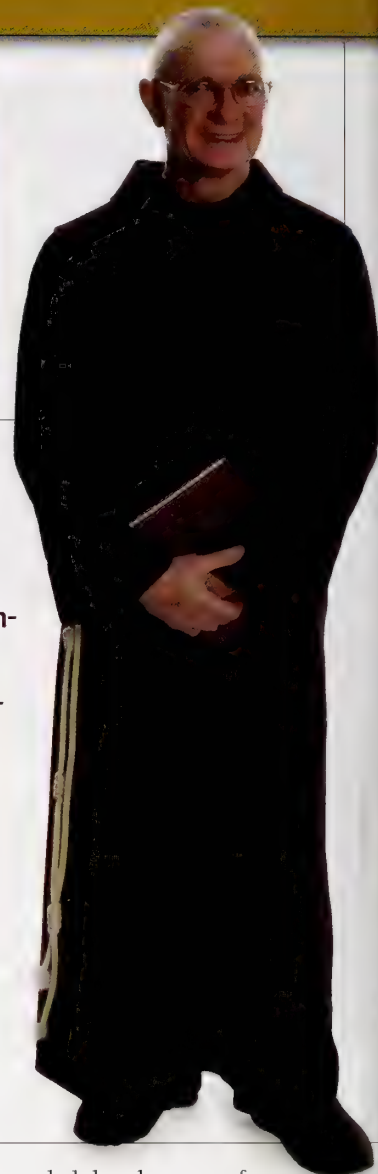
honor of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary was celebrated in Eastern Christianity as early as the 7th century. This feast was taken up by the

**What we believe as Catholic Christians is rooted in what we pray. It is significant that a feast in honor of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary was celebrated in Eastern Christianity as early as the 7th century. This feast was taken up by the Western Church in the 9th and 10th centuries. Although the honor and reverence given to Mary during this period were profound, many distinguished theologians contested the Immaculate Conception.**

Western Church in the 9th and 10th centuries. Although the honor and reverence given to Mary during this period were profound, many distinguished theologians contested the Immaculate Conception. Among them were St. Anselm, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Bonaventure. In their view, this privilege ascribed to Mary removed her from the human race. To be a human being was by definition to be born in original sin and redeemed by Christ.

The great Franciscan philosopher and theologian, John Duns Scotus (d. 1308) argued in favor of the doctrine and his theological argument won the day. Scotus’ understanding of this teaching was rooted in his understanding of the redemptive role of Christ. Scotus

contended that, because of the Scriptural witness given in Colossians, that Christ was the “first born of all creation” (1.16), He was destined to come into the world whether Adam and Eve had sinned or not. Because of sin He came as one who suffered in love as Redeemer; had they not sinned He would have come in triumph, as King, as the glorious embodiment of the true human being. Scotus further contended that, within this Christ-centered creation, Mary would play such a key role as the one in whom the Word became flesh, that she would be preserved from original sin in view of the foreseen merits of Jesus Christ. In other words, like all of us, Mary needed to be redeemed, but because of her privileged role in salvation her





**"Now it's on. Now it's off."**

**What year did Edison first publicly display the light bulb?**



▶▶ Thomas Edison first illuminated an audience through use of his incandescent light bulb in Menlo Park, N.J., on **Dec. 31, WHAT YEAR?**

▶▶ To protest against "taxation without representation," a group of colonial patriots threw 350 crates of tea into the Boston Harbor. An act of defiance attempting to shake Britain's monopoly of the tea trade, the Boston Tea Party took place on **Dec. 16, WHAT YEAR?**

▶▶ The birth of the Savior, a holiday known to the world as Christmas, or "Christ's Mass," was celebrated many days throughout the year until it was decided, by Bishop Liberius of Rome, that it should fall on Dec. 25 The first Christmas celebrated on **Dec. 25** took place **WHAT YEAR?**

▶▶ "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, save as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist in the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction." The 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery in the United States, was ratified on **Dec. 18, WHAT YEAR?**

Answers: 1879, 1773, 337, 1865

redemption by Christ was anticipated. Scotus' argument, coupled with the living, prayerful piety of the faithful, laid the foundation for Pope Pius' definition of the dogma in 1854.

**Under [Mary's] patronage and through her intercession may we continue to bring God's grace-filled healing and redemptive love to our world.**

For those of us in the United States and in North Carolina this dogma should have special meaning. For it is under that title of the Immaculate Conception that Mary is patroness of the United States as well as patroness of the diocese of Raleigh. Thus, Dec. 8, the

feast of the Immaculate Conception, is a holiday of obligation in our country. It is also worth noting that in 2008 we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the apparitions of Mary at Lourdes. There she identified herself to St. Bernadette as the "Immaculate Conception." Under her patronage and through her intercession may we continue to bring God's grace-filled healing and redemptive love to our world. ☺

— Father William McConville, O.F.M., is parochial vicar of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Raleigh.

## Peace on Earth?

**W**hat is this peace of which we hear so much during the Christmas season? If peace means the absence of hostility, then it has probably never existed on earth, at least not since the creation of human beings. It certainly didn't exist in Bethlehem: The Savior was born in an occupied territory rife with sectarian conflict, and almost immediately pursued by those who wanted to kill Him.

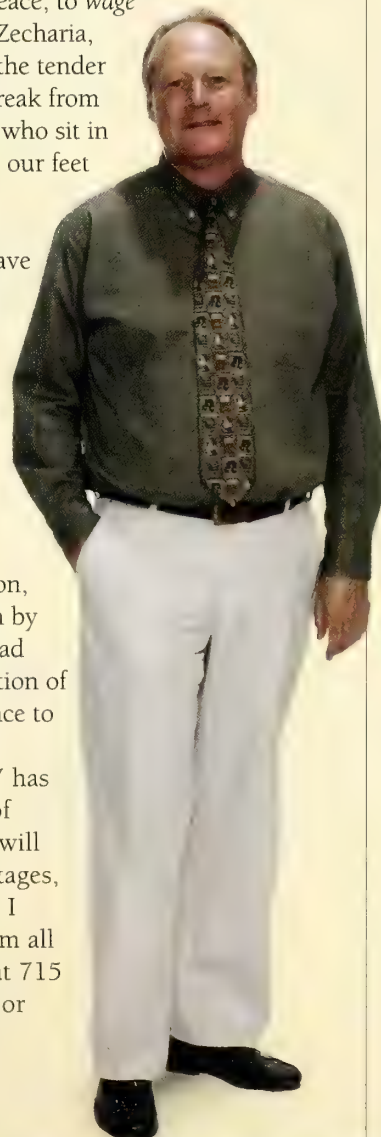
No, Jesus seems not so much to have brought peace, but instead to have urged His followers to *make* peace, to *wage* peace, and to have shown them how. Zecharia, the father of John the Baptist, hailed "the tender mercy of our God, by which the daybreak from on high will visit us to shine on those who sit in darkness and death's shadow, to guide our feet into the path of peace" (Luke 1: 78-79).

In this month's cover story, you'll read about a group of people who have come together to make peace in the life of a homeless woman and her children. And while these people have used a variety of talents in this work, they'll be the first to tell you that they are only instruments, that their inspiration, their motivation comes from the Lord.

This season of peace also contains the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, one of the most misunderstood – even by Catholics – dogmas of the Church. Read Father Bill McConville's lucid explanation of this teaching, and its special significance to the Diocese of Raleigh, on page 6.

Each issue of *NC Catholics* in 2007 has taken as its theme one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. In 2008, each issue will celebrate life in one of its different stages, from the womb to the rocking chair. I hope you'll send me article ideas from all over the diocese! You can write me at 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606 or [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).

— Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.





# Why is Jesus the best teacher?

Jesus taught by doing



theologian of the month

**Catherine of Siena**  
(1347-1380)

★ **Catherine had visions and mystical experiences from a very young age.** By the time she was 7, she had dedicated her virginity to Christ.

★ **As a teen,** she joined the Dominican Tertiary Order and began to live a solitary, consecrated life in her father's home.

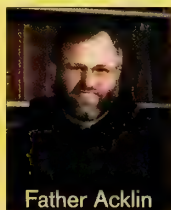
★ **In 1370, she experienced a series of visions of heaven, purgatory and hell – and heard God telling her to leave her cloistered life and enter the world of diplomacy and politics.** She did so, beginning a correspondence with the king and the pope. In fact, her urgings prompted Pope Gregory XI to return to Rome in defiance of France's king.

★ **Catherine was responsible for a spiritual renewal** and had a number of followers.

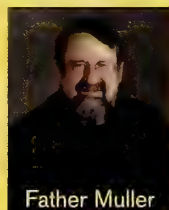
★ **Catherine was deeply devoted to the Eucharist,** existing on nothing more than the Eucharist and water for long periods of time.

**T**his year, *NC Catholics* is exploring Christology – the study of Jesus Christ. We asked several eminent seminary professors some questions about Jesus. Their answers are enlightening and thought-provoking.

Meet the professors



Father Acklin



Father Muller



Father Stevens

★ **Father Thomas Acklin** is a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Pa. He is a graduate of Duquesne University, St. Vincent Seminary, The Catholic University of Louvain and Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Institute.

★ **Father Earl Muller** is The Bishop Kevin M. Britt Professor of Theology/Christology at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. He formerly taught at Marquette University in Wisconsin.

★ **Father Gladstone Stevens** is vice-rector of St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore.

## NCC: What is Jesus' role as teacher?

**Father Acklin:** Jesus teaches even more by what he does than what he says. It's like the famous quote attributed to St. Francis: "Preach always – use words when necessary." Jesus' whole ministry is like this; he begins with teaching and miracles. Then, he begins to teach the hard stuff, about giving us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. There are very few miracles at that point, because miracles are signs pointing toward something, not an end in themselves. Jesus teaches with parables to break through the resistance to understanding, to prepare us to enter into the mystery. Other-



**Heresy!**

**Jesus as God, but not as man:  
the heresy of monophysitism**

►► To monophysitists, Jesus had only one nature, and it was divine. It resembles Apollinarianism, in which Christ's divine nature overcame his human one. But in monophysitism, Jesus was solely and always divine. This heresy mostly affected the Eastern church, which excommunicated the monophysitists in the 6th century.

**Like many of the other heresies, this one is problematic because, without incarnation, there can be no true atonement for our sins on the cross.**

It was condemned by the Sixth Ecumenical Council in 680-681; the doctrine of hypostatic union was reaffirmed – Jesus is one person with two natures inextricably intertwined. He is fully human and fully divine.

wise, you could take this body of knowledge away and think you've "got it." For example, the beatitudes – living them is a mystery; it's not just about knowing them.

point – and that is where the opportunity for real learning occurs.

For us to really know Jesus, all of His sayings have to become living for us. That happens through faith. And we have to recognize that everything Jesus taught was accompanied by things He did.

It's like the famous quote attributed to St. Francis: **"Preach always – use words when necessary."** Jesus' whole ministry is like this ...

We have teaching in the Scriptures and in other church teaching, like the catechism. But to live through the questions is where you really learn to know something. The apostles fumbled and ran away, and learned through that. Ultimately, we slip and fall and miss the

**Father Muller:** Jesus' teaching is connected with the Word – Jesus is the revelation of God. Revelation must touch on the human heart and the human intellect. When you talk about the communication of God to our intellect, you're talking



**what does that symbol mean?**

**Pelican**

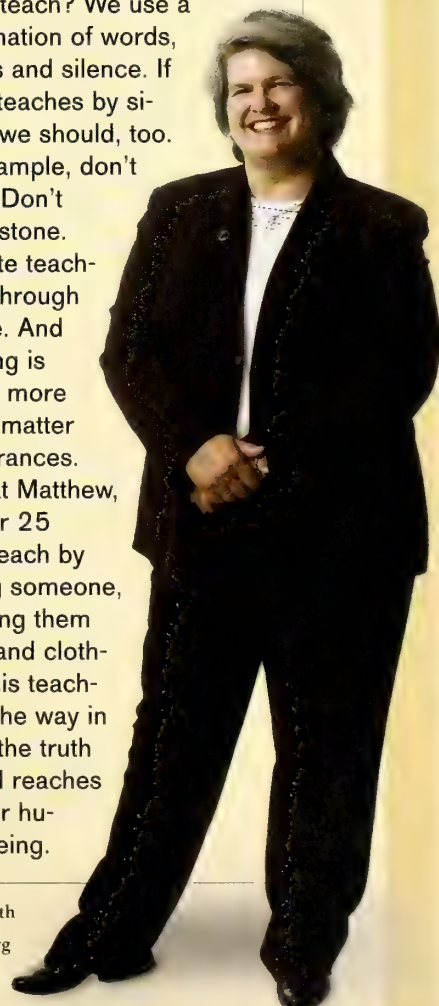
► The pelican was believed to pierce its own flesh with its bill in order to feed its young with its own blood. As such, it became a symbol of Jesus and the atonement. The pelican is seen in paintings, stained glass and murals.

about a student-teacher relationship between us and God. So Christ, as a revelation of the Father, comes as one who enlightens our intellect. That is the root of what is meant by teacher.

There were also cultural issues in the Scriptures that led to the use of that title – in the first-century Jewish culture, those who gathered disciples and trained them were called "teacher" or "rabbi." Since Jesus did those things, he was often called by those titles.

**Father Stevens:** Everything Jesus does is a teaching moment. When does He teach the most? It is when He says nothing – it is in his passion. In that moment, we have the sublime teaching of what it means to be human and God. So, how do we propagate this – how do we teach? We use a combination of words, actions and silence. If Jesus teaches by silence, we should, too. For example, don't judge. Don't cast a stone. Ultimate teaching is through silence. And teaching is always more than a matter of utterances. Look at Matthew, chapter 25 – we teach by visiting someone, by giving them water and clothing. This teaching is the way in which the truth of God reaches another human being.

– Elizabeth  
Solsburg



**Bible Quiz**

I heard the voice of God – Who am I?



►► My mother, Hannah, asked God to send her a son – and in exchange, she promised to raise him as a Nazirite, totally dedicated to the

Lord. I am that son – and as soon as I was weaned, Mother brought me to Eli at Shiloh and that's where I lived. When I was about 12 or so, I began

hearing a voice in the night, while I tried to sleep. I kept getting up and asking Eli what he wanted. Eli kept telling me to go back to sleep, but the voice didn't stop. Finally, Eli told me that it was God calling – and my response, "Here I am Lord," has become the title of a song that is sung in churches regularly. I served the Lord the rest of my days, and was honored to select the first two kings of Israel, Saul and David.

**Who am I?**

►► Turn to  
page 30 for  
the answer



# Who is the Immaculate Conception?

Hint: It's not Jesus

## Mary, the Mother of God Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Dec. 8

**Claim to fame:** The mother of God, mother of Jesus, wife of St. Joseph and greatest of all Christian saints.

**What made her a saint:** Mary's life and her role in the history of salvation is prefigured in the Old Testament, while the events of her life are recorded in the New Testament. The archangel Gabriel appeared to her and asked her to become the mother of Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Her "yes" is a model of trust and faith. When her cousin Elizabeth acknowledged Mary as the mother of God, Mary burst forth into the Magnificat. Mary was at the foot of the cross when Jesus died, and was present in the upper room with the apostles when the Holy Spirit descended on all of them.

**Best quote:** Jesus performed his first miracle at Cana in response to his mother's request. Her words, "Do as he commands," have meaning for all Christians as they walk their faith journeys.

**How she died:** No scriptural reference concerns Mary's last years on earth. According to one tradition, she went to Ephesus; another tradition states that she remained in Jerusalem. The belief that Mary's body was assumed into heaven is one of the oldest in the church. Pope Pius XII declared this belief to be Catholic dogma in 1950. The dogma of the Immaculate Conception, that Mary was free of original sin at the moment of her conception, was proclaimed by Pope Pius IX in 1854.

**Prayer:** *Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy! Our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve, to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn, then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus; O clement, O loving, O sweet virgin Mary. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

— Jan Rynearson



## María, la madre de Dios Fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción: 8 de diciembre

**Lo que la destacó:** madre de Dios, madre de Jesús, esposa de San José y la mayor de todos los santos cristianos.

**Lo que la hizo santa:** Los principales sucesos de su vida son celebrados como fiestas litúrgicas en la iglesia universal. La vida de María y su rol en la historia de la salvación se prefiguró en el Antiguo Testamento, mientras que los sucesos de su vida están escritos en el Nuevo Testamento. Tradicionalmente, fue declarada como la hija de San Joaquín y Santa Ana. Nacida en Jerusalén, fue presentada en el templo y hizo votos de virginidad. Cuando vivía en Nazaret, la visitó el arcángel Gabriel el que le anunció que sería la madre de Jesús por la gracia del Espíritu Santo. Fue prometida en matrimonio a José y luego fue a visitar a su prima, Isabel, quien llevaba en el vientre a San Juan el Bautista. Isabel la reconoció como la Madre de Dios e irrumpió exclamando el Magnificat. Cuando el Emperador Augusto declaró que se realizara un censo en todo el vasto Imperio Romano, María y José viajaron a Belén, la ciudad del linaje de José porque él pertenecía a la casa de David. María estuvo a los pies de la Cruz cuando Jesús murió y estuvo presente en el aposento alto con los apóstoles cuando el Espíritu Santo descendió sobre todos ellos.

**Su mejor cita:** Jesús realizó su primer milagro en Caná en respuesta a un pedido de su madre. Las palabras de María, "Hagan todo lo que él les mande", tienen significado para los cristianos que están transitando por el camino de la fe.

**Forma en la que murió:** No hay referencias en las escrituras concernientes a los últimos años de María en la tierra. De acuerdo a una de las tradiciones, ella se fue a Efeso; otra tradición indica que ella permaneció en Jerusalén. Que el cuerpo de María ascendió a los cielos es una de las creencias más antiguas de la iglesia. El Papa Pío XII declaró esta creencia como dogma católico en el año 1950. El dogma de la Inmaculada Concepción, que María estaba libre del pecado original en el momento de la concepción, fue proclamado por el Papa Pío IX en el año 1854. El cumpleaños de María es una fiesta antigua de la iglesia que se celebra el 8 de setiembre desde el séptimo siglo.

**Oración:** *¡Ave, Santa Reina, Madre de Misericordia! ¡Vida nuestra, nuestra delicia y nuestra esperanza! A ti clamamos, los pobres desterrados hijos de Eva, a ti enviamos nuestros suspiros, lamentos y llanto en este valle de lágrimas. Vuelve abogada llena de gracia, tus ojos de misericordia hacia nosotros; y después de este nuestro exilio, muéstranos el bendito fruto de tu vientre, Jesús; Oh, clemente, Oh, amorosa, Oh, dulce Virgen María. Ruega por nosotros Santa Madre de Dios para que seamos hechos dignos de las promesas de Cristo.*



## Blessed by diversity

**T**he Church in the Diocese of Raleigh is impacted by the immigration of Catholics into our diocese, and the Church has grown significantly from this immigration.

We are blessed with immigrants from Spanish-speaking countries, from Vietnam, Korea and Africa, including Congo, Kenya, Nigeria and Uganda. The Diocese of Raleigh has welcomed these brothers and sisters in the faith by providing liturgies that recognize and affirm their cultures. The Diocese of Raleigh has also invited and welcomed priests from these countries to help in this ministry and the broader ministry of the diocese.

At present, the Diocese of Raleigh has priests from the African countries of Congo, Kenya, Nigeria and Uganda. There are Masses celebrated monthly for the communities using their language and music.

Father Pius Wekesa of Kenya, a student at North Carolina State University, celebrates Mass for the Kenyan community and for other Africans monthly at the Doggett Center, the Catholic Student Center at NCSU. The ordinary parts of the Liturgy are in English; the music is in Swahili and other African languages. Father Wekesa regularly helps with the Masses at Sacred Heart Cathedral, where he is in residence.

Father Alex Nakireru, from Nigeria, has been in our diocese for over 20 years. He has been a professor at Fayetteville State University, and has also helped regularly at St. Ann Parish in Fayetteville. He is a professor at Shaw University in Raleigh. He celebrates a monthly Mass for the Nigerian community at the cathedral.

The parish of St. Michael in Cary has Father Charles Lugenda of Uganda as parochial vicar. Father Emmanuel Katangole of Uganda is a tenured professor at the Duke Divinity School, and he helps regularly at St. Thomas More in Chapel Hill.

Father Camillus Ugwu visits monthly from Baltimore and celebrates the Liturgy in the Igbo language of Nigeria at St. Joseph Parish in Raleigh. The parishes of St. Mary in Goldsboro and St. Mary in Garner share the ministry of Father Roger Malonda Nyimi from Congo.

See how we are blessed with this marvelous demonstration of the catholicity and diversity of Holy Mother Church!

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden

## En Navidad

**E**n Navidad, hay más luces, no sólo porque hay oscuridad sino porque estamos en la espera de la plenitud de la verdad.

En Navidad, no nacen los hijos sólo para el mundo sino también nacen como esperanzas para la eternidad.

En Navidad, la gente no canta en diferentes idiomas sino en el lenguaje melodioso y único del amor.

En Navidad, el orgullo y la grandeza de los buenos se hace humildad, sencillez y fraternidad.

En Navidad, la familia no se reúne para celebrar sino que celebra para fortalecer la unidad.

En Navidad, no recordamos a Dios en los cielos sino que lo descubrimos en la humanidad.

En Navidad, las guerras, los odios y las injusticias son la respuesta de las personas que no aceptan la paz.

En Navidad, la pobreza se vuelve cántico, el cántico oración y la oración alegría de los que esperan la venida del Salvador.

En Navidad, la vida de los pobres, los enfermos, los presos, los migrantes, los jóvenes y los niños se convierte en el pesebre donde nace el Niño Dios.

En Navidad, los huérfanos, las viudas y los damnificados encuentran consuelo en el portal de Belén.

En Navidad, los que no tienen casa, empleo o patria son bienvenidos en la cuna del Niño Jesús.

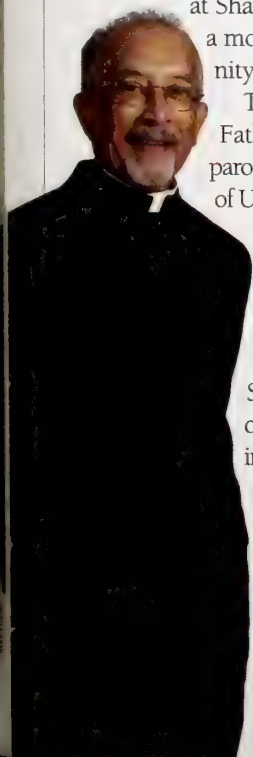
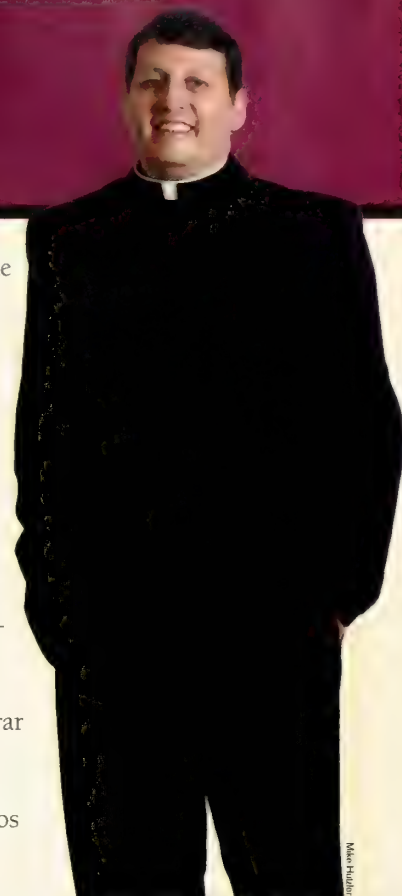
En Navidad, los borrachos, drogadictos y pecadores están llamados a renacer en la Santidad.

En Navidad, los poderosos, los mandatarios y los dictadores encuentran en el Niño recién nacido, el llamado a la solidaridad.

En Navidad, el ser humano, la familia, la Iglesia y la sociedad ven el camino del servicio como la forma de adorar al Niño Dios.

En Navidad, todos pedimos que venga Jesús para fortalecer nuestra fe, vivir la esperanza y practicar la caridad.

— Padre Fernando Torres





# Instruments of God's peace

Homeless, Bernice Denning  
discovered caring hearts at  
Cathedral Parish







One year ago, Bernice Denning and her five children, ages 5-15, were living in a Salvation Army shelter for the homeless in Raleigh. The road to that place had included stops in Washington, Florida and Wilmington, NC. The road out – Bernice couldn't see one.

Today, Bernice and her children live in a three-bedroom apartment. She works in laundry and housekeeping at the YMCA and manages her finances. Her goal in the coming year is to acquire a GED and become a Certified Nurse Assistant – a certification she had held in Washington.

The difference makers? Catholic Charities, a team of loving people from Cathedral Parish in Raleigh and, oddly, Hurricane Katrina.

Roberta Macauley, Catholic Charities' Coordinator of Faith Communities Support Circles Program, explains: "When the Katrina evacuees came to Raleigh, it was a pretty crazy time. The county human services network was overwhelmed by the task of trying to resettle people, and they tried to engage the faith communities to help. Catholic Charities volunteered and we partnered with Lutheran Family Services to offer training to volunteers.

"The needs were numerous. We offered funds for apartments, and volunteers provided transportation, legal help, job seeking assistance, help enrolling children in school – eventually the effort by more than forty faith communities resettled almost 200 evacuees."

Wake County, which has a 10-year plan to end homelessness, took note. As the Katrina crisis subsided, the county asked the participating church agencies if they could apply the same ecumenical model to local homeless families. With helping funds from Wake county, the city of Raleigh and the town of Cary, the Faith Communities Support Circles were born. ►



**“T**he beauty of this model to me,” Macauley says, “is that it’s tailored to the specific needs of the homeless family. Teams of six to ten volunteers whom we’ve trained work with them, starting in the shelter, to help them transition into a home, a job, the kind of life so many of us take for granted.”

Macauley has met with case workers at all the homeless shelters and transitional housing in the county to describe the program and the kind of family it’s designed to help.

“We’re looking for families who have demonstrated a commitment to succeed,” she says. “They’ve participated in all the programs in the shelter, complied with the regulations, have been willing to work and they seem ready to make the transition.”

Last February, Chris Shaw, a case worker for the Salvation Army, identified just such a person: Bernice Denning. When Bernice, who by then had lived in

**“I felt like this was my last hope. I was living on a hope and a prayer.”**

the shelter for eight months, learned that her family was being considered for the program, she prayed.

“I felt like this was my last hope,” she says today. “I was living on a hope and a prayer.”

Macauley agreed with Chris Shaw’s assessment, and contacted a team of volunteers from Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish (one of four Catholic parishes currently participating).

**One member of the Sacred Heart team, Terry Gleason, humorously likens the group to “that crowd of people you see on the wireless phone commercials – the network.”** They stand behind a client, quietly facilitating his or her efforts to live independently.

To meet with the team is to be impressed with the various competencies of the members, and with their humility: They really do think of themselves as “in the background.” It’s also to learn a lot about the obstacles facing the homeless, “basic things,” as Circle member Marie Moylan explains, “that work against the poor.” The poor live from crisis to crisis. The future is something to fear, not to plan for. The poor are wary since, in their experience, promises are usually broken and they have no support network, no circle of friends or experts to contact when a problem needs solving. A typical middle-class parent may feel worn out with all the driving involved in work, shopping, school and extracurriculars. The homeless usually have no transportation; many don’t work because they can’t get to a job on a regular basis.

And all of the failures associated with these obstacles have a snowball effect on things such as

eligibility for housing.

Circle member Tricia Moylan, Marie’s daughter, talks about the gradual evolution of the relationship between a client and the team. “Everything starts with trust, and that takes time to build, on both sides. It involves consistently following through on the things you say you’ll do.”

Ann Werdel, team coordinator with her husband, Bill, elaborates: “All of the support circles are built on a covenant between the client and the team,” she says. “But if that covenant is broken, you don’t run away. You re-meet and figure a way to work things out.”

In their partnership with Bernice Denning, the circle has worked in a variety of capacities. When an apartment was located,

team members helped move the furniture. Circle member Joe Ryan has worked with Bernice on learning to budget and to manage a checking account. Bill Werdel is involved in tutoring Bernice for her GED. Team members share transportation duties to get Bernice to work, her children to school and home in the evening; other members have helped her learn to deal with school officials and landlords when issues arise,

what Ann Werdel calls “a ministry of accompaniment.”

In October, circle member Erika Willacy accompanied Bernice and her family on a pumpkin hunt. The

real reason for the trip, though, was to take a picture of the children to surprise Bernice on her birthday.





► **Left:** On her birthday, Bernice Denning was given this picture of her children by the Sacred Heart team.

It's not always smooth sailing. Roberta Macauley uses the phrase "empowering, not enabling," and that process can involve acquainting clients with realities that they might prefer to avoid. "Joe Ryan," Ann Werdel says with a smile, "has a talent for saying hard things in a loving voice. Instead of criticism, it becomes an invitation to grow."

Circle member Denise Bates, a mom who has "been there," feels a special empathy for clients. She says that another advantage to the support circle is their 24/7 availability.

"Agencies are open from nine to five on weekdays," she points out. "But we can always be reached when there's a problem."

Several members also mention how much their effectiveness is enhanced by their parish. "We're all connected," team member Martin Stankus says, "which our clients aren't."

The team also emphasizes that they have had a learning curve. "We were the first circle," Joe Ryan notes, "so I think for the first four to six months we were learning how to do this, and we've accomplished most of our work since then."

**"Agencies are open from 9-5 on weekdays. But we can always be reached when there's a problem."**

**More than anything, to meet the Faith Communities Support Circle team is to realize the role that faith plays in their work, and vice versa.**

It starts at the Catholic Charities office. "This job is such a ministry," Roberta Macauley says. "It allows me to live out my Christian principles every single day, and to give back some of what I've learned as a wife and mom."

Every circle meeting at Sacred Heart begins with a prayer. "We are all beloved children of God," Ann Werdel says, "but we haven't all had a life that allows us to experience that. We've benefited from social structures that aren't available to people like our clients. Bernice is a beloved daughter of God. And we can help her to see that."

"The Gospel tells us to take care of the least of our brethren," Marie Moylan says. Her daughter

chimes in: "Faith requires action." Denise Bates says her 8-year-old son prays with her for the people the group helps.

"I don't think you can take on families with so many challenges," Bill Werdel says, "unless you have a sense of faith and hope." He shakes his head. "There have been times when, despite our efforts, things frankly looked pretty hopeless; when we had to just do what we could and leave the rest in God's hands. And then, somehow, things got better."

Erika Willacy agrees: "I see a lot of God's providence in the lives of these people. It reinforces my faith."

Bernice Denning's faith in God, and in people, has been reinforced as well. "My family has been blessed," she says. "Without the Support Circle, we wouldn't be where we are today."

## resources

## Want to volunteer?

► For more information on volunteering or on starting a Support Circle in your parish, call Roberta Macauley at Catholic Charities' Raleigh Regional Office, 919.790.8533 or e-mail [macauley@raldioc.org](mailto:macauley@raldioc.org).

## The Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
when there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;

and where there is sadness, joy.  
Grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood, as to understand;  
to be loved as to love;  
for it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.



Sacred Heart Parish's Support Circle. Back row, from left: Martin Stankus, Bill Werdel, Denise Bates, Joe Ryan, Terry Gleason, Anne Werdel, Chris Gorski. Front row: Tricia Moylan, Erika Willacy, Marie Moylan. (Not pictured, Don Boyce)



Roberta Macauley of Catholic Charities coordinates the Faith Community Support Circles Program.



**H**ace un año, Bernice Denning y sus cinco hijos, de edades comprendidas entre 5-15 años, vivían en un refugio de *Salvation Army* para indigentes en Raleigh. Recorrió varios lugares como, Washington, Florida y Wilmington, Carolina del Norte, sin embargo, Bernice no conseguía ninguna solución para salir de su problema.

Hoy en día, Bernice y sus hijos viven en un apartamento de tres habitaciones; ella se encarga de la lavandería y de la limpieza del YMCA (siglas en inglés,) administra muy bien sus finanzas, y su meta para el año que viene es la de convertirse en asistente certificada de enfermera.

¿Quiénes hacen la diferencia? *Catholic Charities*, un grupo de gente devota de la parroquia de la Catedral en Raleigh. La coordinadora de *Catholic Charities* del programa *Faith Communities Support Circles Program* explica: —Cuando los evacuados del huracán Katrina vinieron a Raleigh, esto se convirtió en una situación difícil. La organización de ayuda humanitaria estaba abrumada tratando de acomodar a las personas, entonces ellos solicitaron la ayuda de las comunidades de fe. *Catholic Charities* respondió al llamado y en conjunto con el servicio de familias Luteranas ofrecieron entrenamiento a los voluntarios. —La lista de necesidades era interminable; nosotros ofrecimos fondos para pagar el alquiler de apartamentos y los voluntarios aportaron servicio de transporte, asesoría legal, asistencia en búsqueda de empleo, asistencia para inscribir a los niños en las escuelas; y con el esfuerzo de más de 40 comunidades de fe, reestablecieron a un aproximado de 200 evacuados. También, el Condado Wake, tiene un plan de diez años para disminuir los índices de indigencia. En medio de la crisis del huracán Katrina, las autoridades del

condado Wake solicitaron la participación de agencias de la iglesia y la aplicación del mismo modelo ecuménico para familias indigentes. Además de la ayuda del condado Wake, contamos con La ciudad de Raleigh y el pueblo de Cary, es por esto que fue posible fundar el *Faith Communities Support Circles*.

En palabras de Macauley —pienso que a belleza de este modelo es que está elaborado a la medida para las familias indigentes. Entrenamos a equipos entre 6 y 10 voluntarios para que trabajaran con ellos, comenzando en el albergue y así les brindamos ayuda con la transición a un hogar, un trabajo; el tipo de vida que muchos de nosotros no agradecemos.

Macauley conoció a todos los trabajadores de varios de los refugios para indigentes y del programa de hogar temporal del condado, para describir que familia se podría beneficiar del mismo. —buscamos familias que han mejorado su condición, que hayan participado en todos los programas del albergue, cumplido con las regulaciones, tengan ganas de trabajar y que estén listos para la transición.

En febrero del año pasado, Cris Shaw, un trabajador de *Salvation Army* identificó a una persona con todas las condiciones necesarias para optar por el programa, su nombre, Bernice Denning. Para ese entonces, ella había vivido en el albergue por ocho meses y al saber que su familia había sido considerada para optar por el programa dijo: —sentí como

# Instrumentos de la paz de Dios

## ¿Quieres ser voluntario?

► Para más información sobre el voluntariado o cómo iniciar un círculo de apoyo para familias en tu parroquia, comuníquese con Robert Macauley en la oficina regional de Raleigh de *Catholic Charities* por el siguiente teléfono: 919.790.8533 o por el correo electrónico [macauley@raldioc.org](mailto:macauley@raldioc.org)

que si era mi última esperanza —comentó Bernice— Yo vivía de la esperanza y de la oración.

Macauley de acuerdo con la evaluación de Chris Shaw, contactó a un equipo de voluntarios de la parroquia del Sagrado Corazón (una de las cuatro parroquias católicas participantes)

Un miembro del equipo del Sagrado Corazón, Terry Gleason, jocosamente se refirió al grupo como “la multitud de personas del comercial de teléfono de la televisión” Ellos están siempre detrás del cliente, facilitando los esfuerzos para lograr una vida independiente. El equipo cuenta con miembros calificados en diversas áreas y



Monseñor  
Michael F. Burbidge

Los invita a  
participar en la



“Mi  
Alma  
Glorifica  
al Señor.”

(Lucas 1:46)

# Peregrinación Diocesana

a la

Basílica del  
Santuario Nacional  
de la  
Inmaculada Concepción

11 y 12 de abril, 2008





Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo:

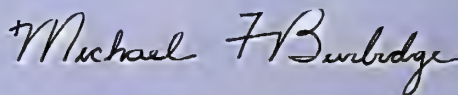
Una peregrinación es un viaje que refleja la vida de fe. A pesar de todos los obstáculos en la vida, es la fe que nos da la fuerza para dirigirnos al Señor por medio de la oración y la veneración para estar más fortalecidos en la vida de Cristo.

Es con ese mismo espíritu de fe que los invito a unirse a la Peregrinación Diocesana a la Basílica del Santuario Nacional de la Inmaculada Concepción en Washington DC, el 12 de abril de 2008. El tema de nuestra peregrinación es: *"Mi alma glorifica al Señor"* (Lucas 1:46) Nuestra nación y la diócesis están bajo el patrocinio de la *Inmaculada Concepción*, es por esto que es apropiado viajar a este venerado santuario para orar, alabar y pedir la intercesión de nuestra Santa Madre para que ella nos ayude a descubrir una vida nueva y abundante en Su Hijo Jesús. Al igual que el viaje de fe, esta peregrinación requiere el sacrificio del viaje hacia el Santuario, tiempo aparte para enfocarnos a escuchar la voz de Dios en la oración, y para aprovechar las ventajas de la gracia que fluye del Sacramento de la Reconciliación, el cual será ofrecido a lo largo del día. Nosotros hacemos nuestra peregrinación como una comunidad de fe, unidad a las parroquias y a las misiones de la Diócesis de Raleigh. Con la Misa concluimos con nuestra Peregrinación a la basílica que será un signo de nuestra unidad y una celebración del alimento y la fortaleza que el Señor nos da a cada uno de los peregrinos para vivir la vida de fe renovada.

Por favor acompáñenme en esta peregrinación en honor a la Santa Virgen María y alabar al Señor por todas las bendiciones que han sido vertidas sobre nosotros y en la Diócesis a través del precioso regalo de la fe católica.

¡María, Madre de la Iglesia, ruega por nosotros!

Sinceramente en Cristo,



Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge  
Obispo de Raleigh

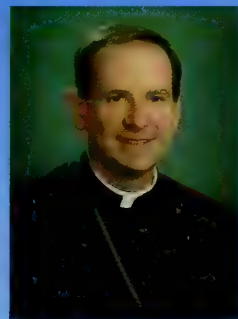


Mosaico de la Inmaculada  
Concepción en la Basílica



The Most Reverend  
Michael F. Burbidge

Invites  
you to  
participate in a



"My  
Soul  
Proclaims  
the Greatness  
of the Lord."

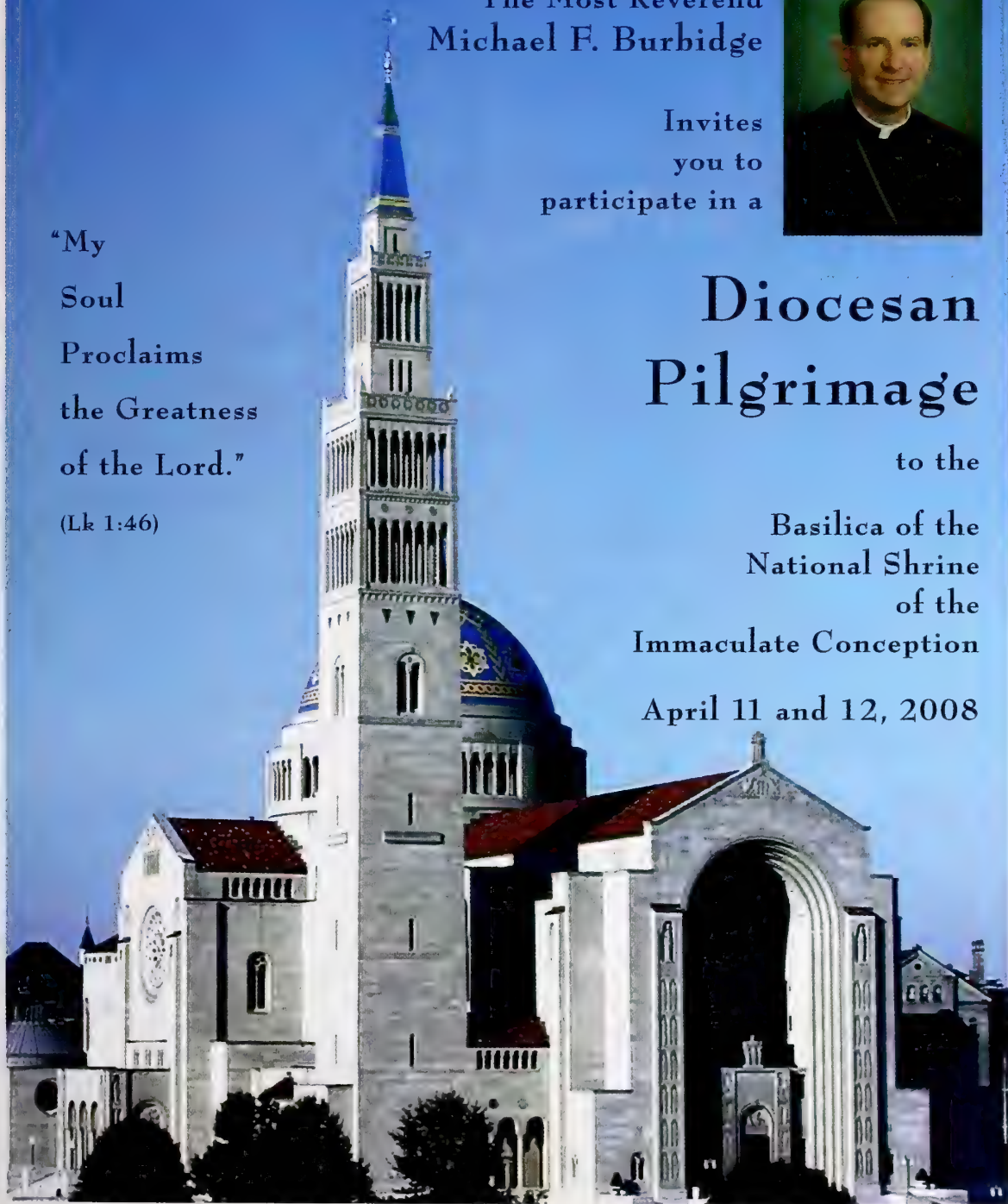
(Lk 1:46)

# Diocesan Pilgrimage

to the

Basilica of the  
National Shrine  
of the  
Immaculate Conception

April 11 and 12, 2008





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When one makes a pilgrimage, it is a journey which reflects the life of faith. Amidst all we encounter in life, it is in faith that we strive to turn to the Lord through our prayer and worship that we might be further rooted in the Life of Christ.

It is in this same spirit of faith that I invite you to join our Diocesan pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on April 12, 2008. The theme for our pilgrimage is *"My Soul Proclaims the Greatness of the Lord"* (Luke 1:46). As a nation and as a Diocese, we are under the patronage of *Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception*. Thus, it is right and fitting that we should make the journey to this most venerable Shrine to pray, to worship and to ask the intercession of our Blessed Mother that we may discover new and more abundant Life in Her Son Jesus.

Like the journey of faith, this pilgrimage will require the sacrifice of time to travel to the Shrine, time apart to focus on the voice of God in private prayer, and time to take advantage of the many graces that flow from the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which will be offered throughout the day. We make our pilgrimage united as a community of faith, the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese of Raleigh. The Mass to conclude our pilgrimage to the Shrine will be a sign of our unity and a celebration of the nourishment and strength the Lord Jesus has given each pilgrim to live the life of faith anew.

Please join me then in making this pilgrimage as we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary and give praise to God for the many blessings that have been showered upon each of us and our Diocese through the precious gift of our Catholic faith.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us!

Sincerely in Christ,

*Michael F. Burbidge*

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
Bishop of Raleigh



Mosaic of the Immaculate  
Conception located at the Basilica



# Pilgrimage Schedule

## Friday, April 11

- Option 1 Buses depart NC, from various locations
- Arrive at hotel in Washington, DC 6:00 pm
- Check-in, dinner and evening activities to follow



## Saturday, April 12

Early am Option 2 Buses depart NC, from various locations for DC

8:30 am Option 1 Buses depart from hotel to the Basilica

9:00 am Morning Prayer

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available throughout the day

9:30 am Reflection - "Our Blessed Mother"  
 - Reverend JaVan Saxon, Pastor, St. Mary's, Laurinburg, NC  
 - Reverend Edgar Sepulveda, Pastor, Mary, Queen of the Americas, Mount Olive, NC

Followed by The Rosary  
 - English and Spanish - 2 Locations

11:00 am Greeting - The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge

11:30 am Lunch

12:30 pm Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

2:00 pm Private devotions, free time, religious articles and gift shop

3:00 pm Liturgy of the Eucharist in the Upper Church  
 - The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Principal Celebrant and homilist

5:00 pm Pilgrims Board Buses - Return to NC  
 - Stop for dinner along the way (at own expense)

### Option 1

**Full Two-Day Trip**  
**Based on Double Occupancy**  
**\$220 - 1pp / \$340 - 2pp**  
**Each Additional Person - \$120**  
**April 11 & 12**  
**Depart NC Friday afternoon**  
 Includes: Round-trip Bus Fare,  
 One Night Hotel Accommodation,  
 Friday Banquet, Saturday  
 Breakfast, Pilgrimage Festivities  
 and Lunch at the Basilica.

### Option 2

**One-Day Trip - \$70**  
**Depart NC Early Saturday**  
**Morning - April 12**  
 Includes: Round-trip Bus Fare,  
 Pilgrimage Festivities and  
 Lunch at the Basilica.

### Option 3

**Lunch at the Basilica - \$10**  
 Will attend the Pilgrimage  
 Festivities at the Basilica on  
 April 12, but will make own  
 travel arrangements.



**Diocese of Raleigh**  
**Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception**  
**Washington, DC – April 11 and 12, 2008**

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY \***

For group registration use form online at: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

Complete and submit this form with payment **on or before February 15, 2008.**

Make check or money order payable to:

Diocese of Raleigh – Pilgrimage. Mail to: Registrar, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606.

**SELECT ONE:**

**OPTION 1** ☐

**OPTION 2** ☐

**OPTION 3** ☐

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Telephone	Cell Phone	
E-Mail		
Parish / Parish City	Number in Family Attending	
Special Dietary Needs		

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Number of Rooms Requested	Preferences: Smoking / Non-Smoking / Handicap Accessibility
Name	Name
Name	Name

Use separate sheet for additional names if necessary.

\* Parents traveling as a part of this pilgrimage are responsible for the care and supervision of children in their care. Minors traveling without their parents as a part of this pilgrimage will register as a part of a group. Adults who supervise minors unaccompanied by their parents must be in full compliance with all Diocesan Safe Environment policies (Level "C" volunteers who facilitate activities and who supervise the children at the hotel but maintain separate rooms for minors and adults). For more information about this policy, please visit the Diocesan website above.



# Programa de la Peregrinación

## Viernes, 11 de abril

### Opción 1

- Los autobuses saldrán de Carolina del Norte desde varios puntos de partida por la tarde
- Llegada al hotel en DC a las 6:00 pm. Registro, cena y actividades

## Sábado, 12 de abril

Opción 2 (Madrugada): Los autobuses saldrán de Carolina del Norte desde varios puntos de partida hacia DC

8:30 am Opción 1 Los autobuses saldrán del hotel a la Basílica

9:00 am Oración de la mañana

El sacramento de reconciliación esta disponible durante el día

9:30 am Reflexión – “Our Blessed Mother”  
- Reverendo JaVan Saxon, Párroco de St. Mary's, Laurinburg, NC  
- Reverendo Edgar Sepúlveda, Párroco de Mary, Queen of the Americas, Mount Olive, NC

Seguida por el Rosario  
- Inglés y en Español - 2 Lugares

11:00 am Bienvenida del Obispo Michael F. Burbidge

11:30 am Almuerzo

12:30 pm Exposición y Bendición con el Santísimo Sacramento

2:00 pm Devoción individual, receso y visita a la tienda de artículos religiosos  
Asamblea de peregrinos, bendición de artículos religiosos

3:00 pm Celebración de la Eucaristía presidida por  
- Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge

5:00 pm Regreso a Carolina del Norte  
- Cena en el camino (por su cuenta)

## Opción 1

**Dos Días de peregrinación**  
**\$220 - 1 persona /**  
**\$340 - 2 personas**  
**Cada persona adicional tiene**  
**un valor de \$120 por persona**  
**11-12 de abril, 2008**  
Saliendo de Carolina del Norte el viernes por la tarde  
**Incluye:** Viaje ida y vuelta en autobús, reservación de una noche en el hotel, banquete del viernes, eventos y almuerzo en la Basílica.

## Opción 2

**Viaje de un día**  
**12 de abril, 2008**  
**\$70 por persona**  
**Incluye:** Viaje en autobús, eventos y almuerzo en la Basílica.

## Opción 3

**Solo almuerzo \$10**  
**12 de abril, 2008**  
Asistiremos a las festividades de la peregrinación a la Basílica el sábado 12 de abril, pero haremos nuestros propios planes de viaje.



Diócesis de Raleigh  
Peregrinación a la Basílica del Santuario Nacional de la Inmaculada Concepción en  
Washington DC - Del 11 al 12 de abril, 2008

**PLANILLA DE INSCRIPCIÓN INDIVIDUAL O POR FAMILIA\***

Para grupos, por favor utilicen la planilla disponible en la página Web: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

Llene y envíe esta planilla con el pago **antes o durante el 15 de febrero de 2008.**

Escribir cheque a nombre de:

Diocese of Raleigh – Pilgrimage: y enviar a: Registrar, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606

**SELECCIONE UNO:**

**OPCIÓN 1** ☐

**OPTION 2** ☐

**OPTION 3** ☐

<b>Nombre</b>		
<b>Dirección</b>		
<b>Ciudad</b>	<b>Estado</b>	<b>Código Postal</b>
<b>Teléfono</b>	<b>Celular</b>	
<b>Correo electrónico</b>		
<b>Parroquia/Ciudad</b>	<b>Número de participantes por familia</b>	
<b>Dieta especial</b>		

**HOSPEDAJE**

<b>Número de habitaciones</b>	<b>Preferencias de habitación: Fumador/ No fumador/ Minusválido</b>	
<b>Nombre</b>	<b>Nombre</b>	
<b>Nombre</b>	<b>Nombre</b>	

De ser necesario incluya una hoja con la información adicional.

\*Los padres que asisten a la peregrinación son responsables por la supervisión y el cuidado de sus hijos. Los menores de edad que viajan sin sus padres a la peregrinación se inscribirán como parte del grupo. Los adultos que supervisan a los menores de edad deben estar en conformidad con las políticas diocesanas de Ambiente Seguro (Nivel "C" voluntarios que facilitan actividades y supervisan niños en hoteles, pero mantienen habitaciones separadas).



sobre todo con humildad: ellos se consideran como la “base,” y su deber es el de aprender acerca de los obstáculos que enfrentan los indigentes –lo básico que necesita el pobre –explica Marie Moylan miembro del programa. –El pobre vive de crisis en crisis; le temen al futuro, y por eso no hacen planes, ellos son cautelosos porque de acuerdo a su experiencia, las promesas nunca se cumplen; no cuentan con un grupo que los ayude, con un círculo de amigos o expertos para llamar cuando tienen un problema.

Los padres de la clase media se sienten agobiados con tener que manejar al trabajo, hacer las compras, llevar a los hijos a la escuela y a las actividades extracurriculares; pero los indigentes, no tienen medios de transporte, muchos de ellos ni siquiera tienen trabajos. Todos estos “fracasos” asociados con estos obstáculos aumentan en la elegibilidad para una casa. Otro Miembro del Círculo, Tricia Moylan, hija de Marie, habló con respecto a la evolución gradual de la relación entre el cliente y el equipo: –Todo comienza con la confianza y ésta toma tiempo en ganársela en ambas partes. Esto demanda consistencia y seguimiento en todo lo que hagas. Ann Werdel, coordinadora del equipo conjunto con su esposo Bill comentaron; –Todo el apoyo de los círculos se basan en un mandamiento entre el cliente y el equipo –agregó Ann– Pero a veces se rompe este mandamiento, y no debes salir corriendo, al contrario, tienes que seguir para asegurarte de que todo funcione bien.

En asociación con Bernice Denning, el Círculo ha trabajado en una infinidad de áreas. En el momento que consiguieron un apartamento, los miembros del equipo ayudaron a mudar los muebles. Otro miembro del círculo, Joe Ryan, trabajó



con Denise para explicarle el presupuesto y como administrar su cuenta del banco.

En Octubre, otro miembro del Círculo Erika Willacy acompañó a Bernice y a su familia a buscar calabazas. La verdadera razón del viaje, fue de tomar fotos de sus hijos para sorprenderla el día de su cumpleaños. Sin embargo, no siempre es fácil. Roberta Macauley utilizó la frase “otorgar poder, no permitir” y ese proceso comprende darle a conocer a los clientes las realidades que ellos prefieren evitar. –Joe Ryan tiene un talento para decir duras realidades con una voz amorosa, en vez de criticar, se convierte en una invitación al crecimiento.

Otro miembro, Denise Bates, una madre que ha “pasado por eso” siente una especial afinidad por los clientes. Ella dice que otra de las ventajas del círculo es la asistencia las 24 horas del día. –Las agencias están abiertas desde las 9 de la mañana hasta las 5 de la tarde los días de semana –señala –Se pueden comunicar con nosotros cuando tienen algún problema. Muchos miembros también mencionaron como su efectividad es enaltecida por la parroquia. –Nosotros estamos conectados –dice Martin Stankus miembro del círculo. El equipo enfatizó que han tenido una curvatura de aprendizaje. –Nosotros fuimos el primer círculo– dice Joe Ryan– pienso que los primeros 4 a 6 meses aprendimos como hacerlo y

hemos cumplido mucho de nuestro trabajo desde entonces.

**Sobre todo, conocer al equipo de las comunidades de fe es darse cuenta del papel que juega la fe en el trabajo y viceversa.** Todo comienza en la oficina de *Catholic Charities* –Este trabajo es un gran servicio –comenta Roberta Macauley –Nos permite vivir nuestros principios Cristianos todos los días y compartir lo que he aprendido como esposa y madre.

Todas las reuniones del círculo en el Sagrado Corazón comienzan con una oración: –Todos somos hijos de Dios –comenta Ann Werdel –pero no todos hemos tenido una vida que nos permite vivir la experiencia. Nosotros nos beneficiamos de estructuras sociales que no están disponibles para personas como nuestros clientes. Bernice es una hija de Dios y nosotros la hemos ayudado a entenderlo. –El Evangelio nos dijo que debemos cuidar a los hermanos que mas lo necesitan... –dicen Marie Moylan. Su hija toma la palabra; –La fe requiere de acciones. El hijo de Denise Bates de 8 años de edad se une a ella en oración para pedir por las personas a las que el grupo brinda ayuda. –No creo que te puedas ocupar de familias con demasiados problemas – comenta Bill Werdel – A menos de que tengan un aire de fe y esperanza. Algunas veces, a pesar de nuestros esfuerzos, las cosas se miran muy desalentadoras; siempre hacemos todo lo posible, el resto lo dejamos en las manos de Dios y luego por alguna razón las cosas se mejoran. Erika Willacy agrega –Yo veo la providencia de Dios en las vidas de estas personas y esto ratifica mi fe.

La fe Bernice Denning en Dios de y la de muchas personas a sido ratificada de la misma manera: –Sin el apoyo de los círculos, no hubiésemos podido llegar a donde estamos ahora.

### Oración a San Francisco de Asís

► Señor,  
Hazme  
Instrumento de  
Tu paz.  
Donde haya odio,  
siembre yo amor;  
Donde haya  
injurias, perdón;  
Donde haya  
duda, Fe;  
Donde haya  
desaliento,  
esperanza;  
Donde haya  
oscuridad, luz;  
Y donde haya  
tristeza, alegría.

O Divino  
Maestro,

Haz que no  
busque ser  
consolado sino  
consolar;  
Que no  
busque ser  
comprendido  
sino  
comprender;  
Que no busque  
ser amado sino  
amar;  
Porque dando  
es como  
recibimos;  
Perdonando es  
como Tú nos  
perdonas;  
Y muriendo  
en Ti es como  
nacemos en  
Vida Eterna



# Ya que usted lo pregunta...

Este mes con el Padre William McConville, O.F.M.

**Un amigo me comentó que la Inmaculada Concepción significa que María era virgen cuando nació Jesús, sin embargo pienso que esta equivocado. ¿Podría explicar el significado de la Inmaculada Concepción?**

**M**uchas personas confunden el dogma de la Inmaculada Concepción de María con la creencia de la concepción virginal de Jesús, pero simplemente significa que Jesús fue concebido en el vientre de la Virgen María a través del Espíritu Santo y sin la intervención de un hombre. La narrativa de la infancia de ambos evangelios según San Mateo y San Lucas confirman este gran misterio de fe.

La Inmaculada Concepción de María, definida como dogma de la iglesia por el Beato Pío XI en 1854, afirma que María “desde el primer momento de su concepción, fue preservada del pecado original por la gracia de Dios Todopoderoso, en vista de los meritos de Jesucristo el Salvador de la humanidad.”

En otras palabras, la Inmaculada Concepción de María fue un regalo único, un extraordinario papel que le fue designado en la historia de la salvación. Aunque este dogma no se encuentra explícitamente en las Escrituras, la visita del ángel Gabriel a María “llena eres de gracia” lo sugiere. El dogma sin embargo, tiene una larga trayectoria en la tradición de la Iglesia, en el aspecto litúrgico y teológico.

Uno de los principios fundamentales de la tradición Católica se basa en “la ley de la

oración es la ley de la creencia” Nuestra creencia como cristianos católicos se fundamenta en la oración. Durante este periodo, entre el siglo IX y X, la celebración en honor a la Inmaculada Concepción de la Virgen María fue significativo para el Cristianismo Occidental. A pesar del honor y la reverencia hacia María, muchos distinguidos teólogos refutaron la idea de la Inmaculada Concepción, entre ellos se encuentran: San Anselmo, Santo Tomas de Aquino y San Bonaventura. En su punto de vista, este privilegio atribuido a María la separa de la raza humana, puesto que la definición de ser humano es haber nacido en pecado original y luego redimido por Cristo.

El gran filosofo y teólogo franciscano, John Duns Scotus (1308) argumentó a favor de la doctrina, el cual se basa en la comprensión del papel redentor de Cristo. Scotus afirma que según las Escrituras contenidas en Colosenses, Cristo fue “el primer nacido de la creación” (1:16) Él ya estaba destinado a venir al mundo independientemente si Adán y Eva pecaron o no. El pecado es el motivo de su sufrimiento y de su redención, de no haber sido por

eso, Él hubiese venido triunfante a este mundo como un rey, como la gloriosa personificación del verdadero ser humano. Además, afirmó que dentro de esta creación cristiana, María jugaría un papel importante en la cual la Palabra se convertiría en carne, y que ella estaría preservada de todo pecado en vista de los meritos previstos por Jesucristo. En otras palabras, al igual que todos nosotros, María debía ser redimida, pero por su papel privilegiado en el drama de la salvación, su redención por Cristo fue anticipada. El argumento de Scotus, en conjunto con la vida y la piedad religiosa de los fieles, establecieron las bases de la definición del dogma del Papa Pío en 1854.

**En otras palabras, la Inmaculada Concepción de María fue un regalo único, un extraordinario papel que le fue designado en la historia de la salvación. Aunque este dogma no se encuentra explícitamente en las Escrituras, la visita del ángel Gabriel a María “llena eres de gracia” lo sugiere.**

Para aquellos en los Estados Unidos y en Carolina del Norte, este dogma debería tener un especial significado. Es bajo el título de la Inmaculada Concepción que María es la patrona de los Estados Unidos al igual que de la Diócesis de Raleigh, es por esto que el 8 de diciembre, la celebración de la Inmaculada Concepción es

obligatoria en nuestro condado. Es pertinente mencionar que en el 2008 celebraremos el 150 aniversario de las apariciones de la Virgen de Lourdes, donde se le apareció a Bernadette como la “Inmaculada Concepción.” Bajo su patrocinio y a través de su intercepción nosotros continuaremos brindando la gracia de Dios y su amor redentor para el mundo. ☪

— El Padre William McConville, O.F.M., es vicario parroquial de St Francis of Assisi en Raleigh.





**E**n el mes de diciembre, todos recibimos muchas invitaciones a diferentes eventos y celebraciones, por ello les escribo para extenderles una invitación que les brindará la oportunidad de vivir la experiencia de recibir abundantes bendiciones espirituales, ser testigos en nombre de la humanidad y de reflejar su amor por nuestra Santa Madre.



En esta época sagrada, celebramos este preciado regalo del Adviento y de Navidad, encontrando así la verdadera paz en Jesucristo; y durante estas fechas, los invito a vivir la paz del Señor en el hermoso Sacramento de la Penitencia, entréguele al Señor todos sus pecados, porque ellos nos alejan de estar en paz con Dios, con los demás y con nosotros mismos. Aprecien la infinita misericordia de Dios, quien los perdona y les ofrece una nueva vida. ¡Que hermosa forma de preparar nuestros corazones para la celebración del nacimiento del Señor!

Además los invito a que se reconcilien con aquellos miembros de la familia con los cuales han tenido problemas, sean concientes de la generosidad del Señor al perdonarnos, entonces tomen la iniciativa de perdonar a todo aquel que los haya ofendido. Al experimentar el perdón del Señor en nuestras vidas y compartirlas con los demás, es cuando conocemos Su Paz.

Mientras nos preparamos para celebrar el nacimiento del niño Jesús, Hijo de Dios y de María, renovamos nuestra más profunda reverencia por el regalo de la vida. Desafortunadamente, este mundo no reconoce lo sagrado de toda vida humana desde el momento de su concepción hasta su muerte natural. Es por esto que los invito al Rally for Life en Raleigh y a la March for Life en Washington el 22 de enero; el Obispo Jugis y yo ofreceremos Misa en la Basílica de la Inmaculada Concepción para todos los fieles de la Diócesis de Charlotte y de la Diócesis de Raleigh. Espero que asista una significativa representación de nuestra diócesis para darle gracias a Dios por el regalo de la vida, orar por los que aún no han nacido y por todos aquellos que no pueden proteger sus vidas.

Este mes de diciembre, en el que celebramos a la Inmaculada Concepción y la Navidad, renovamos nuestro amor por la Santa Madre y oramos por la gracia para que imite su profunda confianza en Dios y su total obediencia a su voluntad. Nuestra diócesis esta bajo el patrocinio de la Inmaculada Concepción y es por esto que consideramos oportuno hacer una peregrinación a la Basílica de la Inmaculada Concepción el 12 de abril de 2008 (los detalles se encuentran adjuntos en la revista) Los invito a que participen en este viaje espiritual el cual los llenará de gracia y de abundantes bendiciones. ¡Quizás, esto podría ser un buen regalo de navidad para la persona a quien amas!

Espero que consideres seriamente esta invitación para evitar los "remordimientos"! Además es mi más ferviente deseo que a lo largo de la época del adviento y en especial el día de navidad que vengas a celebrar de nuevo de la verdadera paz de Jesucristo, el Hijo de Dios y de María. ¡Santa María Madre de Dios, Ruega por nosotros ahora y siempre!

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh

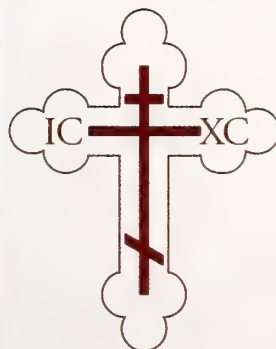
**¡Santa María,  
Madre de Dios,  
Ruega por Nosotros!**

### PT Bookkeeper Position Available

Holy Spirit Catholic Church is seeking a part time bookkeeper. Working knowledge of General Accounting Practices, Quick Books Pro and familiarity with ACS People Tracking System. 20 hrs per week.

Send resume to:  
400 Academy Heights Road  
Kinston, NC 28504

For more info call Fr. Ed Burch 252-523-8898.



St Nicholas Eastern Catholic  
Mission of Raleigh, NC

Blessed by his  
Excellency Bishop Robert Moskal  
Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy  
of Saint Josephat, Parma, Ohio, USA  
Sunday 10:00 am Divine Liturgy  
English language  
St. Thomas More Academy Chapel  
3109 Spring Forest Rd. Raleigh, NC 27616

Fr. Mark W. Shuey, Pastor - 919-779-7246 [SaintNicholas.info@gmail.com](mailto:SaintNicholas.info@gmail.com)



# Praying in the style of Mary

reflecting on God's Word: *Lectio Divina*

**C**hristmas is almost here. Most of us are very tempted to get caught up in the rush of it all. We are very blessed that Mother Church gives us Mary in the season of Advent as a model to help us be open and prepared for Jesus' birth.

Mary, in Luke's Gospel, experienced the powerful presence of the angel Gabriel that announced her own motherhood of the Messiah, God's Son. She experienced the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit. And, following the birth of Jesus, Scripture says that Mary and her child were visited by shepherds who told her about the wonderful vision of angels and the words that were spoken about her new born Son.

For our spiritual fitness in preparing for Christmas, what Mary did next is very important. Scripture says that she kept these things and pondered them in her heart (Luke 2:19).

This month let us walk with Mary and pray as she did. When we ponder God's word, meditating on it slowly with thought and prayer in our hearts, we are practicing the spiritual exercise known as *Lectio Divina* (pronounced lex-ee-oo div-ee-nah) *Lectio Divina* literally means "Sacred Reading." Christians and our Hebrew

ancestors have been practicing this kind of prayer for thousands of years. To practice this, we read sacred Scripture, either the Old or New Testaments, in a slow, prayerful way. We read it slowly with self awareness. What words, phrases, or images touch our hearts as we read? We think about how the sacred text connects to what is going on in our life.

**The important part of this exercise is not in how much we read, but in how we savor the word we are reading. This exercise is not about gaining information about the text, but about meeting God.**

but of using the texts as an aide to contact the living God. Basic to this practice is the eventual union with God in faith which, in turn, finds continued nourishment and development in further reading." (Taken from the *Lectio Divina* Web site at: [www.sage.edu/faculty/salomd/ld/lectio.html](http://www.sage.edu/faculty/salomd/ld/lectio.html))

The important part of this exercise is not in how much we read, but in how we savor the word we are reading. This exercise is not about gaining information about the text, but about meeting God. "It is undertaken not with the intention of gaining information,







## spiritual exercise: being a peacemaker

**F**or this exercise, let's begin by asking for Mary's intercession:

Dear Mary, my mother and Mother of Jesus, your Divine Son, help me now to meditate and ponder on God's word with a loving heart. May I take in God's word so much that I, too, like you may give Jesus birth in our world. May I be transformed by God's word into the image of the Eternal Word through whom I have been created.

**1 Suggested Readings:** Genesis 1 (created by God's Word in God's image and likeness)

John 1:1-18

Isaiah 11:1-9

Isaiah 12

Isaiah 7:10-16

Luke 1:26-38

Luke 1:46-56

Luke 1:68-80

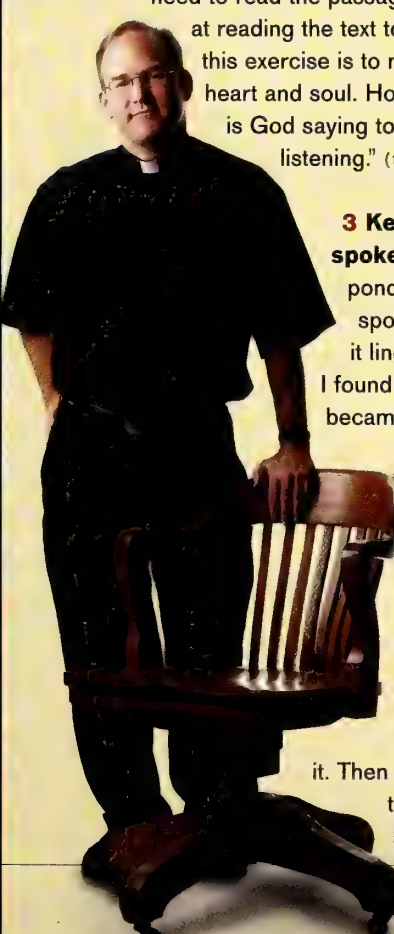
Luke 2:1-14

Luke 2:15-20

You may have other favorite Scriptures. "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord!"

**2 As you read whatever passage you have chosen, reflect on how the words of sacred Scripture are touching your heart.** You may

need to read the passage a number of times. We are trained at reading the text to gain information, but the goal in this exercise is to meet God in faith in the depths of our heart and soul. How am I encountering God now? What is God saying to me? "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening." (1 Samuel 3:10)



**3 Keep whatever word God has spoken to you in your heart.** Let yourself ponder it ... treasure it like Mary. God has spoken to you. Believe it! Savor it! Let it linger like honey on your lips. "When I found your words, I devoured them; they became my joy and the happiness of my heart, because I bore your name, O Lord, God of hosts." (Jeremiah 15:16)

**4 Live the word that is within you.** When we eat food, we digest and assimilate it, and it literally becomes a part of our body. When we eat God's word, we also must savor it, digest it, and assimilate it into our lives. To do so, we must live it. Then we, too, like Mary will be giving birth to Jesus. His living word will have become flesh in us.

— Father Bill Ashbaugh



## Bishop Manz visits diocese

► For three days in October, Most Reverend John R. Manz, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago and Episcopal Liaison to the Migrant Farmworker Apostolate of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Committee on Migration, visited the Diocese of Raleigh. He was accompanied by Sr. Myrna Tordillo, Coordinator of Migrant Ministries for the USCCB. Bishop Manz's visit was an effort to become better informed about the agricultural realities in this part of the country. "It is also an opportunity to see how best to respond and help immigrants," Sr. Myrna said, "so that he can share a report of his visit with USCCB Committee on Migration when the bishops meet in November."

Bishop Manz, along with Bishop Michael Burbidge, began by meeting with members of the Hispanic Leadership Development Class at Maria Reina de las Americas Church in Mt. Olive. After meeting with the class, Bishop Manz celebrated Mass, with Bishop Burbidge concelebrating. In the afternoon, he continued meeting with local growers and migrant workers in the fields, and visited Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Newton Grove.

The next day, Bishop Manz met with migrant farmworker communities in Siler City and attended meetings in Greensboro. At the end of the day, he met with lay ministers and Hispanic leaders at St. Bernadette Church in Fuquay-Varina,



With Father Edgar Sepulveda, Pastor of Maria Reina de las Americas in Mt. Olive, Bishop Manz talks with Hispanic parish leaders.

where he was welcomed by St. Bernadette Pastor Fr. Mark Betti and Parochial Vicar Fr. Marco Antonio Gonzalez. Fr. Gonzalez, a native of Mexico, was a farm worker in North Carolina before attending the seminary. On the final day, the bishop visited St. Andrew Parish in Red Springs, stopping at two homes of parishioners who have

had family members detained or arrested by immigration officials.

Other Arch/Dioceses Bishop Manz visited this year include Cleveland, Miami, Palm Beach, Orlando, San Bernardino and Stockton. Upon leaving the Diocese of Raleigh, Bishop Manz proceeded to the Diocese of Charlotte.

# Coming Soon... Going Fast!



The exciting Pennybyrn at Maryfield is 86% reserved —

that means only a few more can take advantage of pre-opening pricing. Will you be one of them?

This architecturally stunning new community is scheduled to open in Winter of 2007. An active, modern lifestyle that offers you gorgeous private residences, superior amenities and a professional staff to provide unparalleled services...it's the retirement lifestyle that you've been waiting for!

*Don't let this opportunity pass you by. Call (336) 821-4050 or toll-free (866) 627-9343 today...prices will never be this low again!*



Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God

1315 Greensboro Rd, High Point, NC 27260

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

NP/NCC/Urg0807





## Bishop celebrates Mass for homeschool families

►► The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Mass for home school parents on Saturday, Nov. 3, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in



Raleigh. Approximately 350 were in attendance. The Mass was hosted by The Association of Roman Catholic Homeschoolers (ARCH) of Raleigh and Cary and the Raleigh parish. (The organization was formerly affiliated with TORCH.)

The Bishop's homily focused on humility. "Humility allows us to realize that everything we have is not a result of our own doing," the Bishop said, "but rather from the Lord, the source of all good gifts."

Bishop Burbidge also spoke of the stress parents face in trying "to form and teach your children in the midst of the countless obstacles and temptations that the world puts before them."

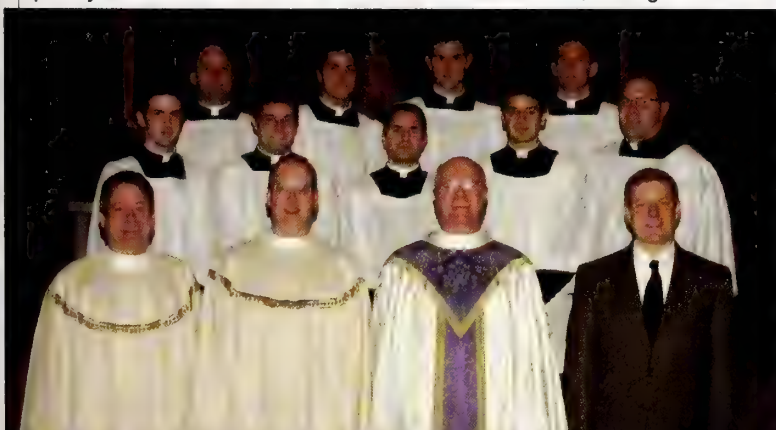
"Pray for the gift of perseverance," he advised. "You do not always see the results you are seeking, but God assures you that all you do in His name will never be in vain. Your labors will bear fruit in ways you can never imagine."

Families interested in learning more about ARCH can log on to its Web site at [www.archraleigh.tripod.com](http://www.archraleigh.tripod.com).

## Nine first year seminarians from diocese receive Cassock

►► Twenty-seven first year seminarians studying at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Overbrook, received the Cassock on Saturday, October 27, 2007, prior to a Mass celebrated by Reverend Monsignor Joseph G. Prior, Rector of the Seminary. Seven of the seminarians were from the Diocese of Raleigh.

The Cassock Day Rite is a longstanding tradition at the Seminary in which new men receive and wear the full-length, black clerical robe for the first time. The wearing of this garment is symbolic of the seminarians' willingness to pursue a priestly vocation and strive to live in imitation of Christ Jesus, the High Priest.



**Bottom Row** (from left to right): Reverend Joseph P. Gentili, Director, Pastoral and Apostolic Formation; Reverend Robert B. McDermott, Dean of Men, College Division; Reverend Monsignor Joseph G. Prior, Rector; Mr. James F. Growdon, Academic Dean, College Division.

**Second Row** (from left to right): Mr. Patrick J. McLaughlin (I College); Mr. Ryan W. Elder (Pre-Theology 1); Mr. Adam C. Richard (II College); Mr. Jonathon B. Baggett (I College); Mr. Paul N. Cottrill (Pre-Theology 1).

**Top Row** (from left to right): Dr. Ruben A. Benthall (Pre-Theology 2); Mr. Michael J. Burbeck (Pre-Theology 1); Mr. Charles D. Fraune (Pre-Theology 1); Mr. Ronald A. Hackett (Pre-Theology 1).

## St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School

Pre - K to 8th Grade • Apex, NC

Where each child is recognized as a unique gift from God



St. Mary Magdalene offers an accelerated curriculum, advanced math classes, extensive middle school elective program, fine arts program, seven middle school sports, highly involved parents and a church community.



### Open House Dates

Wed., Dec. 12 9:30 a.m.

Also every Friday, 9 - 11 a.m. by appt.

Applications Now Available for the 08-09 School Year

Call Linda Callahan, Assistant Principal

(919) 657-4800, x258 or [Callahan@stmm.net](mailto:Callahan@stmm.net)

[www.stmm.net](http://www.stmm.net)

## STOCK GIFTS

The Catholic Center will be closed  
December 24 through January 1

Our website contains the necessary information to make a stock donation to the Diocese of Raleigh. Our stock donation instruction form (including our account number) is available at:

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

Once on the website homepage, select "Philanthropy."

The stock donation form is located in the "Other Ways to Give" section of the "Philanthropy Overview."

Please fully complete the two-page form and provide it directly to your broker to execute your transaction.

We can not execute transactions on your behalf.

In addition, please send a copy of the completed form to the Diocese at the address listed on the form.

If you have any questions during the time we are closed, please leave a message at:

(919) 821-9722 • [lambert@raldioc.org](mailto:lambert@raldioc.org)

Messages will be retrieved periodically.

Thank You and Happy Holidays!



## Dr. Terry Jackson to retire

Unlike most people, Terry Jackson actually looks forward to a long car trip — provided that there is someone occupying the seat next to him. Then, sometime after the surface conversations about weather and current events have been exhausted, he slips in a deeper request: *Tell me your faith story*, he says.

The counselor in him — he has a doctorate of ministry in mental health — is fascinated by the stories. The evangelist in him sees them as essential to passing on the Catholic faith. This December, Jackson will conclude a long chapter in his own faith story when he retires as Director of the division of Evangelization and Catechesis for the Diocese of Raleigh. His influence here has spanned 19 years but began in an arrival laced with uncertainty.

Jackson originally came to North Carolina on the promise of a counseling career in a friend's practice; that practice folded within weeks of his arrival. With two children, a wife and no job, but with a background in ministry and counseling, he applied to be Raleigh's Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

Through that difficult time he relied on a favorite quote by Thomas Merton: "I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end."

**"Dr. Jackson's love for the Lord Jesus and His Church, and his commitment to the essential work of evangelization and catechesis, have been a blessing to our Diocese and to all he has served."**

— Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

But that unknown road led Jackson to ever greater responsibilities with the diocese.

One of the cornerstones of his work in evangelization has been to help parishes see the necessity of what is for many an uncomfortable concept. Although Pope Paul VI cemented in Church documents that evangelization is an "essential mission" of the Church, the idea of reaching out and sharing the faith, Jackson has found, sometimes provokes fear and anxiety.

His job has been to change that. Evangelization in Greek means "good news," and Jackson takes the meaning literally as he asks others to share their faith stories and spread their own good news.

One key way he has accomplished this is by implementing Disciples in Mission, a ministry that fosters parish-based evangelization by encouraging parishioners to meet regularly in small faith-sharing groups.

"Disciples in Mission was the absolute highlight



of my career," Jackson said. "What's most striking to me is how confident people are now with the word 'evangelization,' and I attribute that to Disciples in Mission. That's the

first program in the diocese that used the word."

Jackson has a soft spot for those sometimes overlooked in the greater Catholic community — the single professionals, the widowed and divorced, the inactive Catholics — and his litany of implemented programs underscores his commitment. Through his own parish, St. Andrew the Apostle in Apex, he implemented Landings, a program for inactive Catholics that offers a safe harbor in their return to the Church. Thirty-five parishes in the diocese are now trained to offer Landings — more than any other diocese in the nation.

Jackson also set up the first regular ministry in the diocese for single Catholics, whether widowed, divorced or never married. Today, a monthly Single/Single Again Mass at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh gives them that structure of support on a regular basis.

"My experience is that so many of these people have moved here from somewhere else and have no support system," Jackson said. "This ministry allows isolated folks to connect and experience support through one of the most traumatic experiences a person can go through."

On the catechesis front, under Jackson's tenure the diocese has instituted the Catechetical Institute, which guides adults in the process of becoming evangelizing Catholics and certified catechetical leaders. There are now 107 Master Catechists working in religious education, many of them trained through the Catechetical Institute.

Jackson will miss his role; he will miss the parishes and staff and the inspiration he gleans from watching evangelization at work. "It's been exciting for me," he said. "But I've made my contribution — and that's all it was: a contribution. It built on what the people before me did."

Now, he hopes to travel with his wife, especially to California, where their daughter is expecting their first grandchild. — Dana Lorelle



## Teens attend Back to Earth Retreat

► More than 400 high school students from throughout the Diocese of Raleigh attended the annual Back to Earth camping retreat, Saturday, Oct. 6, at Short Journey Center in Smithfield. The theme of this year's event was "Stir Into Flame the Gift of God That You Have" (2 Timothy 1:6).

The retreat provides the teenagers an opportunity to deepen their faith through a variety of faith-based sessions. This year's workshops included the Bible, Vocations, Environmental Justice, Love of Jesus, Expressions of Faith, and Worship. Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Vigil Mass for the students. Addressing the theme, the Bishop noted the words from Scripture "remind us that the flame of God within us can never be extinguished, the Lord is with us always. This retreat is designed to help you to be on fire with His love; for our holy Catholic faith and in service to the Lord and His people."



► **Catholic cemetery section blessed in Cary.** On Nov. 5, Bishop Burbidge blessed a section of Wake Memorial Park in Cary for the interment of Catholics.





Father Mark Reamer, OFM, Bishop Michael Burbidge and Father David McBriar, OFM, with John Carey Award winner and St. Francis of Assisi parishioner Gail Phares.

## CCHD Grants awarded

►► The Diocese of Raleigh presented its 2007 Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) grants to eight local community-based organizations at its annual award dinner on Oct. 18. The event was held at Saint Michael the Archangel Church in Cary.

In addition to the local recipients, four eastern North Carolina organizations received national CCHD grants totaling \$105,000.

The dinner was attended by representatives of the organizations, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge and the Most Reverend F. Joseph Gossman, Bishop-emeritus of the Diocese of Raleigh.

In his talk to the gathering, Bishop Burbidge commended Bishop Gossman for his leadership in the area of social justice and social ministry, pledging "that the Diocese of Raleigh will continue to work for justice, peace, and the dignity of all people."

Bishop Burbidge noted the Catholic Campaign for Human Development was begun by the U.S. Catholic Bishops in 1970 to address and alleviate the root causes of poverty. "It is effective because it invests in the dignity of people living in poverty and because it provides them with an opportunity to help themselves," the Bishop said. "I am proud of our Church and our Diocese for its work to positively impact lives and communities through its efforts to break the cycle of poverty."

In addition to the awarding of the grants, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh presented its annual John J. Carey Award to Gail Phares, who, for many years, has been involved in social justice work in North Carolina, the United States and Central America.

Funding for national and local grants comes from the annual Catholic Campaign for Human Development collection which takes place in parishes across the country in November.

Since 1970, CCHD has funded community and economic development programs that build strong communities through participation of low-income leaders and a focus on the roots of poverty. In the last 31 years, parishioners in the Diocese of Raleigh have contributed a total of \$1.1 million dollars. In that same period, organizations in the diocese have received more than three-million dollars in national grants, almost three times the amount given for national grants. In addition, 25 percent of the collection each year remains in the local diocese to be awarded as local grants. Last year, that amount totaled approximately \$27,500.

## Raise your voices! Kids' favorite Christmas songs

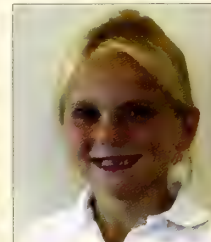
►► This month, we asked first and second graders at St. Paul education Center in New Bern, "What is your favorite Christmas song about Jesus?"



**William,  
Grade 2**  
*Away in a Manger*



**Ellie, Grade 1**  
*Hark, the Herald  
Angels Sing*



**Sara,  
Grade 2**  
*Feliz Navidad*

►► William, Ellie and Sara, along with



**Aidhan,  
Grade 1**



**Macy,  
Grade 2**



**Matt,  
Grade 1**

wish all the readers of NC Catholics peace in this holy season!

## Charity makes cents at STMM

►► Third grade students at St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School in Apex collected 24,200 pennies to aid needy children in Haiti. The \$242 amount will benefit the Haiti Goat Project, a program that helps supply vital protein lacking in Haitian children's diets.

Char Farin, a professor in the Department of Animal Science at N.C. State University, spearheads the Haiti Goat Project in conjunction with the Haitian Health Foundation and Christianville Foundation Farm in Haiti. The short-term goal is to create a food source rich in protein. The short-term goal is to educate the Haitians so they can manage a goat herd and produce food sources independently. The donation from St. Mary Magdalen children will be used to purchase supplies such as vaccines and medicine to keep the mother and baby goats healthy.





## things to do:

**Christmas Gifts.** All year long Catholic Charities' Piedmont office assists families with very low incomes. During this Christmas season we will match 750 children and adults with a Christmas gift. If you would like to donate a gift card for food or clothes, call Sue Gilbertson, 919.286.1964, or stop by 902 Broad St., Durham.

**The Diocese of Raleigh Ecclesial Lay Ministers (RELM)** will sponsor the **Celebration of Lay Ministry** 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1, at St. Raphael Church, Raleigh. Mass with Bishop Burbidge will include special recognition of all those who are celebrating retirement or significant anniversaries of 10 years or more as lay ecclesial ministers in the Diocese of Raleigh this year. The Bishop will then join the participants for brunch followed by a presentation on Bishop Burbidge's vision of lay ecclesial ministry. Advance registration is required; e-mail [register@raldioc.org](mailto:register@raldioc.org). There is a fee of \$10 for those who are not members of RELM. If you have questions contact the Office for Lay Ministry at 919.821.9715 or [bea.callery@raldioc.org](mailto:bea.callery@raldioc.org).

**St. Thomas More School**, 920 Carmichael St. (off 15-501/Fordham Blvd.), Chapel Hill, will hold its annual **"Holiday Shoppe" craft show** 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1, in the school gym. Featuring 50+ vendors, a wide variety of unique, handmade items will be for sale along with a raffle, musical entertainment, free gift wrapping and a hot lunch. Admission is free. All proceeds benefit St. Thomas More School. Please contact Joanne Vance at 919.490.8493 for more information.

**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour**, 7-9 p.m., Dec. 7, at Blessed Sacrament Church in Burlington. The VHH is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. The VHH's are open to everyone, but they are certainly unique opportunities for men and women discerning a church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment. Next month's VHH will be held on Jan. 4 in the Fayetteville Deanery.

**Catholic Golden Age** will meet at 1:30 pm, Sunday, Dec. 2, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Fallon Center, Raleigh. Call Mary Ruth at 616.217.9580 or Michaeline at 616.832.2974 for information regarding the meeting as well as CGA's 5:30 p.m. dinner get-togethers every third Thursday throughout the year.

**Search #149**, 7 p.m. Dec. 7 to 2 p.m. Dec. 9 at Short Journey Center, Smithfield, is a weekend retreat for 11th-12th grade youth. Activities encourage self-discovery and reflection on relationships with others and with God. This is a peer-led retreat as the Search "team" is made up of other teens. These past Searchers model leadership, faith sharing and ministry with their peers. Adults in youth ministry also attend and participate in Search. Searches usually fill up quickly, so sign

## December Readings

### Sunday, Dec. 2

*First Sunday of Advent*  
Is 2:1-5  
Ps 122:1-2,  
3-4,4-5,6-7,8-9  
Rom 13:11-14  
Mt 24:37-44

### Friday, Dec. 7

*Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
Gn 3:9-15,20  
Ps 98:1,2-4(1a)  
Eph 1:3-6,11-12  
Lk 1:26-38

### Sunday, Dec. 9

*Second Sunday of Advent*  
Is 11:1-10  
Ps 72:1-2,  
7-8,12-13,17  
Rom 15:4-9  
Mt 3:1-12

### Sunday, Dec. 16

*Third Sunday of Advent*  
Is 35:1-6a,10  
Ps 146:6-7,  
8-9,9-10  
Jas 5:7-10  
Mt 11:2-11

### Sunday, Dec. 23

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
Is 7:10-14  
Ps 24:1-2,  
3-4,5-6(7c,10b)  
Rom 1:1-7  
Mt 1:18-24

up for the earliest date possible to ensure yourself a space. For information contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or [hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:hagarty@raldioc.org).

**Advent – Preparing the Way of the Lord**, Dec. 7-9 at the Christian Family Living Center, Topsail Island. All ages are invited to this special weekend focusing on what is most important in the celebration of the Christmas season. Family activities include making luminaries, baking cookies and singing Christmas carols. \$110 for ages 8 and older. \$75 for ages 2-7. For information call 910.328.1584.

► **Download an application at**  
[www.christianfamilyliving.com/res/Documents/2007retreatapplication.pdf](http://www.christianfamilyliving.com/res/Documents/2007retreatapplication.pdf)

**The feast day of our Lady of Guadalupe** is Dec. 12. There will be celebrations in many of our parishes. Please check with your parish for dates and times.

**La celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe** es el 12 de diciembre. Por favor pregunten en su parroquia por la fecha y la hora de esta celebración.

**Retiro de Sanación**, El sábado 15 de diciembre La Renovación Carismática Hispana de Raleigh te invita a un Retiro de Sanación. Invitado: Padre Rafael Delgado Suriel "P. Chelo" Lugar: Light House Convention Center 326 Tryon Rd. Raleigh NC. 27613 Contactos: P. Edgar Sepúlveda 919.429.1003, Winston Guevara 336.512.1729, Ana Salazar 919. 619.8326.

**African Ancestry Kwanzaa for Life Celebration**, noon – 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, at the St. Alphonsus Center, Wilson. This will be a cultural celebration involving the principles of Kwanzaa and Respect

## Upcoming events at Avila Retreat Center

To register or for more information, call 919.477.1285  
[www.avila-retreat-center.com](http://www.avila-retreat-center.com)

► **Voices of Advent – John, Mary, Joseph**: 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4. No one prepared for the birth of Jesus better than John the Baptist, Mary and Joseph. These three challenge us to re-imagine Advent. John knows who he is, Joseph decides to live with mystery, Mary proclaims a new era in the human family. Find out the prominent role each plays in the birth of a savior who will

change the world. Presenter: Fr. John Gillespie, M.Div., M.A., parochial vicar, Infant of Prague Catholic Church, Jacksonville, NC. Donation: \$30 (includes lunch).

► **Women's Serenity Retreat** (12-Step Program): 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4-11 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6. Theme: Spirituality in a Higher power, Self, Others and Nature is the focus of the retreat. Presenter: Sister Anne Winkelmänn is Chief Clinical Director for six outpatients. Sister Anne has been working in the field of addiction for 22 years and is a licensed drug and alcohol counselor. Donation: \$120.





**Monday,  
Dec. 24**  
*Christmas Eve Vigil*  
Is 62:1-5  
Ps 89:4-5,16  
17,27,29 (2a)  
Acts 13:16-17,  
22-25  
Mt 1:1-25 or  
1:18-25

**Tuesday,  
Dec. 25**  
*Christmas Day, Nativity of the Lord, Midnight Readings*  
Is 9:1-6  
Ps 96:1-2,  
2-3,11-12,13  
Ti 2:11-14  
Lk 2:1-14

*Dawn Readings*  
Is 62:11-12  
Ps 97:1,6,  
11-12  
Ti 3:4-7  
Lk 2:15-20

*Day Readings*  
Is 52:7-10  
Ps 98:1,2-3,  
3-4,5-6 (3c)  
Heb 1:1-6  
Jn 1:1-18 or  
1:1-5,9-14

**Sunday,  
Dec. 30**  
*Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph*  
Sir 3:2-7,12-14, Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5  
Col 3:12-21 or  
3:12-17  
Mt 2:13-15,  
19-23  
Lk 23:35-43

Life. Bring your favorite cultural dish. For more information contact Wilena McPhatter, 252.243.7592 or mcphatterw@raldioc.org.

**Evangelization and Catechesis Retreat:** "He leads me beside still waters." Jan. 7 - 9 at Trinity Center, Salter Path, N.C. For more information call or e-mail Linda Bedo 919.821.9753 or bedo@raldioc.org.

**Week of Prayer Service.** St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church in Apex will host a Week of Prayer Ecumenical Service at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24. January 2008 marks the 100th anniversary of this annual prayerful observance by Christians worldwide. The Week of Prayer was initiated by Fr. Paul Wattson, founder of the Friars of the Atonement order, which serves at St. Andrew's parish. Music by choirs from St. Andrew and Apex First Baptist Church. All Christian faiths welcome. A light reception will follow the service. For more information or directions, contact the church office at 919.362.0414.

Mark your calendars! The Fayetteville Office of Catholic Charities will be having its fourth annual fundraiser, "**A Chocolate Affair...To Remember,**" on Saturday, Jan. 26, at St. Ann Church in Fayetteville, N.C. The event features an array of chocolate goodies and both silent and live auctions of celebrity, sports items and vacation packages. Donations for the upcoming event would be appreciated. Contact: Lou Orban, Regional Director, Catholic Charities of Fayetteville at 910.424.2020 for pickup or more information.

► **Creating a Spiritual Retirement, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.** Wednesday, Jan. 16. Are you recently retired? Already retired and sensing a quest for more meaningful living? This day of reflection will explore the deeper invitations of life in retirement and God's call to a new way of being and ongoing growth in God's Spirit. The day involves input, personal reflection and small group sharing. Presenter: Sister Adria O'Connor, CSC, is director of Wellsprings of Wisdom, a ministry offering men and women the opportunity to embrace the aging process as a time of positive transformation. Donation: \$30.

## I am not able to do this job anymore

### Now what?



Bill is in his early 50s and has had a physical job throughout his career.

**Q:** *My job has had its ups and downs over the years, but, in general, I've enjoyed the variety.* The physical nature has kept me in good shape and I'm skilled at what I do. I'm outside most of the time, which I enjoy, and I'm more or less my own boss. As much as I like my job, I had been considering retirement in the next few years. However, I had an accident that badly damaged my leg. It's going to be a long recovery, and I'm not sure I'm going to be able to handle the physical nature of my work even after I've healed. I may be looking at a significant career change ahead and may also have to delay retirement. Just when it looked like I had it all figured out, this happened. What do I do? — **Bill**

**A:** **Tim says:** We've all heard stories about God having different plans for us. Does God plan suffering? I can't believe he plans it, but it happens, and it's up to us to put our faith in him to guide us through it. According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, our pain is to be joined with Christ's suffering on the cross. In this way, we grow in faith and trust. In the first chapter of James, its author writes, "... and let perseverance be perfect, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." We must turn suffering into growth and opportunity. When

life eludes our careful planning, we must open ourselves to God's calling. Since our talents are not distributed equally (CCC 1936), we are dependent upon one another. As our abilities change, as in Bill's case,

we still have a responsibility to apply our talents to the service of others, regardless of what we thought we were supposed to do. "These differences belong to God's plan, who wills that each receive what he needs from others, and those endowed with particular talents share the benefits with those who need them." (CCC 1937)

Regardless of what happens, all things work together for good to those who love God. (Rom 8:28) We can follow Bill's example to learn how we can deal with life's changes:

- He kept a positive outlook on life.
- He realized that our plans are meaningless when it comes to life's surprises.
- He assessed his skills with his new set of abilities.
- He enthusiastically and thankfully opened himself to the new opportunities that God was placing before him.

When problems arise, God is trying to tell us something. Life changes are rarely easy, but if we answer his call, we will know the direction he intends for us. — Tim Ryan



## A different approach to sports at St. Mary Magdalene

► In 2003, Anthony Reese, then working as an engineer, told a friend about a new youth sports program he wanted to start. The friend asked how he could compete with other well-established leagues in the area. His answer was simple: "I'm not going to compete with them."

Reese and his wife, Lori, set out to develop a program that focused on community building through sports. Their model was the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO), a national program originally started to keep youth off the streets during the Depression in 1930. The program they created, Parish Athletics based at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Apex, aims to get people together in a positive sports environment. "The community has a chance to play sports together. One team you are on with some kids, but the next sport you are on a team with other kids you played against," said Reese.

Faces become familiar and relationships are formed. Reese believes this makes his program more about learning and fun — and less about competition. "They [families] see each other in church, at school and in their neighborhoods. It creates a different atmosphere. Other leagues can get out of control, but you don't see that here."

Reese started with 128 kids playing soccer and baseball in the spring of 2004. Last year's rosters included more than 1,600 participants in five different sports, which accounted for approximately 90 percent of the field and gym utilization at St. Mary Magdalene. Parish Athletics was also recently voted Best Youth Sports Program in the Apex/Cary/Holly Springs/Morrisville area by *The Cary News*.

Although the nucleus of the program is families from the three Catholic parishes in Southwest Wake County, it is open for anyone to join. Most of the growth comes from people telling their friends and neighbors. Reese laughed, "One guy told me recently

'my whole cul-de-sac is here.'"

Sports offered include soccer, baseball, basketball, cheerleading, volleyball and the recent addition of middle school-age softball at Cardinal Gibbons High School. The program expanded this fall to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in north Raleigh, offering soccer and baseball.

According to Reese, another benefit of Parish Athletics' environment is that kids are encouraged to participate in more than one sport.

"Other programs are often about one sport. At 5 years old, you don't know what you are good at. We offer exposure to different sports in a laid-back environment," he explained.

"We get good athletes and others who have never played. Also some kids, who are serious in one sport, play another sport in our league for fun."

John Pendergrass, director of the diocese's Office of Child and Youth Protection and a St. Michael's parishioner, shared his experience with Parish Athletics: "This athletic program brings families together. As the kids play, parents get the chance to meet, talk and get to know each other. I have seen the camaraderie up close as I coached T-ball and soccer."

Pendergrass continued, "It warmed my heart as an 8-year-old came to practice one Tuesday and proclaimed, 'I made my First Communion on Saturday' and received congratulations from teammates. The feeling of community grows as we build memories 'at my church team.'"

— Ann Marie DiSerafino



## NC bishops affirm Lutheran-Roman Catholic Covenant

► On Dec. 2, the First Sunday of Advent, Bishop Michael Burbidge of Raleigh, Bishop Peter Jugis of Charlotte and the Bishop of the NC Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Leonard Bolick, will reaffirm our respective churches' commitment to the Lutheran-Roman Catholic Covenant. The joint signing will take place at the Lutheran Church of the Epiphany, Winston-Salem, at Vespers at 5 p.m.

"A covenant between the Diocese of Charlotte, the Diocese of Raleigh and the Synod of North Carolina-ELCA" was first signed on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 1991. The service was held at First Lutheran, Greensboro. It was signed by Bishop F. Joseph Gossman, Diocese of Raleigh; Bishop John F. Donoghue, Diocese of Charlotte; and Bishop Michael McDaniel, NC Lutheran Synod. The covenant was affirmed on Jan. 14, 1996, at Macedonia Lutheran Church, Burlington. It was signed on that occasion by Bishop Gossman, Bishop William Curlin, Diocese of Charlotte and Bishop Mark Menees, NC Lutheran Synod. Another covenant affirmation was held on June 3, 2001, at Saint Pius X Catholic Church, Greensboro.

All are welcome to this ecumenical event. The Lutheran Church of the Epiphany is located at 5220 Silas Creek Parkway in Winston-Salem. The telephone for the church is 336.765.6211.

## Prayer Service Commemorates tornado victims

► On Nov. 18, a year and two days after the anniversary of the fatal 2006 tornado in Riegelwood, N.C., an interfaith prayer service was held to commemorate the storm's eight victims. Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge blessed a memorial stone at the community site; last March, Catholic Charities collaborated with Mr. Creed Moore of Generations Memorials to create the stone, inscribed with the names of the deceased. Also participating in the service was Msgr. Matthew Hendrick, Pastor of St. Mark Catholic Church in Wilmington and of Christ the King, its mission in Riegelwood.

According to Linda Pierce, director of the Cape Fear Regional Office of Catholic Charities, the Riegelwood Disaster Relief Committee, which is still coordinating assistance to residents affected by the disaster, organized the prayer service and memorial dedication "not only to honor the victims and their surviving families, but to provide some consolation and healing for members of the community-at-large."



## Sister M. Franzchen, 1916-2007

Sister M. Franzchen Yahner, IHM, of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, died on Sunday, Oct. 7, 2007, at Our Lady of Peace Residence in Scranton. She served as a teacher at St. Mary Elementary School in Goldsboro, N.C., from 1971 to 1974.



## Emmaus Conference celebrates the Living Christ

►► At the seventh annual Emmaus Conference, held at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Raleigh, catechists and parish ministers celebrated the Lord with prayer, education, reflection and music. The theme of this year's event was "Encountering the Living Christ." The conference featured music by Val Jansen and Tony Melendez, who performed in concert and also lent their talents to prayer gatherings throughout the weekend. This year's keynote speakers were Father Bob Hater, professor of Pastoral and Systemic Theology at the Athenaeum of Ohio, and Dr. Michael Carotta, national advisor for Adolescent Catechesis for Harcourt Religion Publishers. Father Edgar Sepulveda, pastor of Mary Queen of the Americas Catholic Church in Mount Olive, provided the Spanish keynote address.

On Saturday, Carole Sears,

recently retired director of Religious Education from St. Mary's in Goldsboro, received the Mary Dowling Master Catechist Award for 2007.



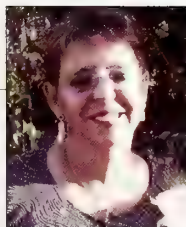
Carole was nominated by her pastor, Father Thomas P. Norris, OSFS, and Rev. Deacon Webster A. James. Father Norris summed up Carole's ministry when he said, "Carole's thousands of hours in catechetical ministry and her commitment to share her faith will always be an example for all who have been touched by her."

Lynn Magoon, principal of St. Mary's School, said that "Carole was a friend of Mary Dowling's, and I know that she would be honored to have her achievements in catechesis recognized by an award in Mary's honor." The award, named in honor of the late director of Faith Formation for the diocese, includes \$1,000 and a ceramic bowl crafted by Sister Megan Dull, SND.

This year marked a special milestone for Faith Formation in the Diocese of Raleigh, as it saw the number of its Master Catechists exceed 100, almost all certified in the past 14 years.

## Teresa Aldahondo receives Latino Diamante Award

►► Teresa Aldahondo, consultant to the Diocesan Office of Hispanic Ministry, was recognized as a Premio Award Winner by Diamante, Inc., a statewide non-profit organization for nourishing cultural and community participation among North Carolina Hispanics and Hispanic-Americans through cultural and community events, verbal communication, education and dissemination of information. The award cited Mrs. Aldahondo's tireless work for 20 years with the immigrant and Latino community. A native of Puerto Rico, Mrs. Aldahondo is a member of St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Cary.



## ►► The feast day of our Lady of Guadalupe is

**Dec. 12.** There will be celebrations in many of our parishes. Please check with your parish for dates and times. La celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe es el 12 de diciembre. Por favor pregunten en su parroquia por la fecha y la hora de esta celebración.

## Cardinal Gibbons High School, St. Thomas More Academy among the best

►► According to the Catholic School Honor Roll's annual survey, Cardinal Gibbons Catholic High School and St. Thomas More Academy, an independent, diocesan-approved Catholic high school, both in Raleigh, rank in the top 50 Catholic high schools nationally in "academic excellence, Catholic identity and civic education."

"This wonderful distinction reflects the dedication of our remarkable faculty and staff to Catholic education and to our mission of forming young men and women of faith, service and leadership in church and community," Cardinal Gibbons Principal Jason D. Curtis said of the school's inclusion. St. Thomas More Headmaster Rod Ruiz said, "St. Thomas More teaches students to use their reason and serve as faithful Christians. As a result, each young person can fulfill his or her potential."

All 1,300 Catholic high schools in the nation were invited to apply to the Honor Roll, an independent project of the Acton Institute, an international research and educational organization. The Honor Roll was produced in consultation with a national advisory board comprised of Catholic college presidents and noted Catholic scholars.

## A gift from afar

►► Recently, Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #1643, from Infant of Prague Parish in Jacksonville, received a special gift from troops overseas. Since 2005, retired Marine Jack McHugh has joined with the Daughters to collect items and send care packages filled with food and toiletries overseas. On Sept. 12, the Daughters were presented by the 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines, with a U.S. flag that flew in Camp Habbaniya, Iraq.



# A tale of two counties

## St. James, Henderson

**N**ext June the parish of St. James the Greater in Henderson will celebrate a 100th anniversary. The first Catholic church in Henderson was indeed erected in 1908 on land purchased by "Tar Heel Apostle" Father Thomas Price. But the story of St. James is more complex.

The church built 100 years ago was called St. Paul. A chandelier from that first church hangs in St. James today. St. Paul would eventually move to a location on Oxford Road, where a church and social hall were built in the '60s.

Meanwhile, Catholics in neighboring Granville county were worshipping in Oxford, in a railway car called St. Peter. St. Peter was one of three Pullman cars outfitted at great expense in the early 20th century by the Catholic Church Extension Society. Both cars carried priests from places such as North Carolina around the country so they could raise funds for their missionary work. A *Time* Magazine article from 1934 describes how the car was "lent, later given to Bishop William Joseph Hafey of Raleigh, N.C.

"He in turn presented it to the 'Mission Band' headed by Father Cornelius Edward Murphy. Because

only 9,000 of North Carolina's 3 million population are Roman Catholics, Father Murphy takes his car into many a section where a priest has never before been seen. From his headquarters at Nazareth, N.C. he goes out for a week or two with an assistant and a negro cook. Besides the chapel, seating 75, St. Peter contains a study, a kitchen and sleeping quarters. Often dependent

upon freight trains for a lift from siding to siding,

Father Murphy pays a minimum \$18 for short hauls and 10 full fares for long hauls, as compared with the usual charge of 25 fares for private cars."

Its mission days past, St. Peter served the military camp at Butner during World War II before moving to Oxford. When the chapel could no longer accommodate its congregation, it was demolished, its copper, steel and iron sold, and a permanent church was built. It was called St. Catherine of Siena.

By the '90s, northerners were pouring into the area and straining the facilities of the churches in both counties, and the decision was made to merge the two parishes at a midway point. St. Paul

was sold to a funeral home, St. Catherine to a Christian congregation, and land was purchased on the west side of Henderson. For a year, area Catholics worshipped at a storage building without its own heating or air conditioning. In 1995, St. James was dedicated. Over the next year that facility would be enhanced by the addition of a parish hall, and a cemetery and columbarium on five additional acres.

Today, as pastor, Father William Upah explains, St. James is growing, and includes the mission church of St. Joseph the Worker in Warrenton, administered by Sister Margaret Gallagher, I.H.M. Father Upah describes an increasingly diverse congregation at St. James, including long-time residents of the area, Spanish-speaking families and a noticeable number of Indian Catholics, many members of the local nursing community. The ongoing challenge in this environment is bringing people together, he says. "But St. James – and I know many pastors say this but I think this parish is special – is an incredibly welcoming, friendly place." He also cites the "extra mile" traveled by so many parish volunteers. A special joy for Father Upah is helping to work out the spiritual difficulties of Catholics who feel estranged from the Church.

St. James Church features stained glass windows representing the various churches in its lineage. Next year, the parish will celebrate the determination of Catholics in two counties, who for 100 years have managed to find a place to practice their faith. – Rich Reece

### resources



### St. James The Greater Parish

3275 Hwty158  
Bypass  
Henderson, NC  
27536

► Call the  
parish office for  
Mass times:

**252.438.3124**

the Diocese of  
*Raleigh*



# Take time to learn how giving can pay you

Could you be missing an opportunity to make a contribution  
to the Catholic Church and help yourself at the same time?  
Learn more about a gift that benefits you and the Diocese of Raleigh.  
Begin by completing and returning this response form below.  
Your inquiry is strictly confidential



To request information, fill out the form and mail to: Debbie Rossi; 715 Nazareth Street; Raleigh, NC 27606-2187

- ☐ Please send me the brochure, *The Charitable Gift Annuity: Answers to Frequently Asked Questions*.  
☐ I would like a personal illustration of how a charitable gift annuity would benefit me. Use the amount  
checked for my illustration: ☐ \$50,000 ☐ \$25,000 ☐ \$10,000 ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_  
I would like to receive my payments: ☐ quarterly ☐ semi-annually ☐ annually.  
The proposal should be prepared for: ☐ me only; my birth date is \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Please include a second individual whose birth date is \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ THIS INFORMATION IS  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to  
know more!



Visit our Estate Planning Web Site:  
[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.



Asante is a Swahili word that means  
THANK YOU

## KENYA FAIR TRADERS

is a farmer owned cooperative  
with a coffee history dating  
back to 1900, when coffee  
growing was introduced to  
Kenya. The cooperative en-  
sures that the farmers receive  
a living wage for their produce.

This holiday season, KENYA  
FAIR TRADERS encourages  
you to give a gift of ASANTE  
products, while at the same  
time reaching out to a needy  
Kenyan HIV/AIDS orphan.

## KENYA FAIR TRADERS

in Partnership with The Diocese of Raleigh are proud to announce

### ASANTE COFFEE TO AID HIV/AIDS ORPHANS IN KENYA

When you purchase ASANTE products, a percentage will be contributed to the Office of the African Ancestry Ministry & Evangelization at the Diocese of Raleigh. The funds will support HIV/AIDS orphanages under the care of the Kenyan Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Nairobi, under the leadership of Cardinal John Njue.

#### OUR PRODUCTS INCLUDE

ASANTE MEDIUM ROAST COFFEE

ASANTE CHAI MASALA TEA

ASANTE GINGER TEA

ASANTE EARL GREY TEA

ASANTE BLACK TEA

GIFT BASKETS—Whatever the occasion, we have a  
variety of baskets that consist of ASANTE Coffee  
and Tea and Kenyan handcrafted statues.



- ◆ Discover our 100 years of tradi-  
tion and caring in our high quality  
ASANTE coffee and teas.
- ◆ We provide a full range of coffee  
roasting, grinding, and packaging  
as well as blending a variety of  
teas.
- ◆ We offer custom services to help  
you acquire your unique cup.

To place an order visit our website [www.kenyafairtraders.com](http://www.kenyafairtraders.com)

or call: (919) 633.7516 / (919) 771.7907

Further inquiries contact:

Francis Kioko, 1058 W. Club Blvd., Suite 600, Durham, NC 27701; or e-mail [info@kenyafairtraders.com](mailto:info@kenyafairtraders.com)

Supported by: The Diocese of Raleigh, African Ancestry Ministry & Evangelization; Contact: Martha C. Bailey / [Martha.bailey@raldioc.org](mailto:Martha.bailey@raldioc.org)



"No one has greater love than this, to  
lay down one's life for one's friends."

John 15:13

Upcoming Vocations Events

December 7, 2007	Piedmont Deanery First Friday Vocations Holy Hour
December 13, 2007	Priesthood Discernment Group Meeting
January 4, 2008	Fayetteville Deanery First Friday Vocations Holy Hour
January 19, 2008	Priesthood Discernment Group Meeting
February 1, 2008	Cape Fear Deanery First Friday Vocations Holy Hour
February 16, 2008	Priesthood Discernment Group Meeting



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH + OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

DISCERNING A VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD? CONTACT FR. SHLESINGER + 919.832.6280 + VOCATIONS@RALDIOC.ORG

December 2007



**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DiocesefofRaleigh.org](http://www.DiocesefofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



please recycle



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514  
95219 P 14 1301  
UNC CHAPEL HILL SERIALS DEPARTMENT 36  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE

OF THE CATHOLIC

CHURCH IN EASTERN

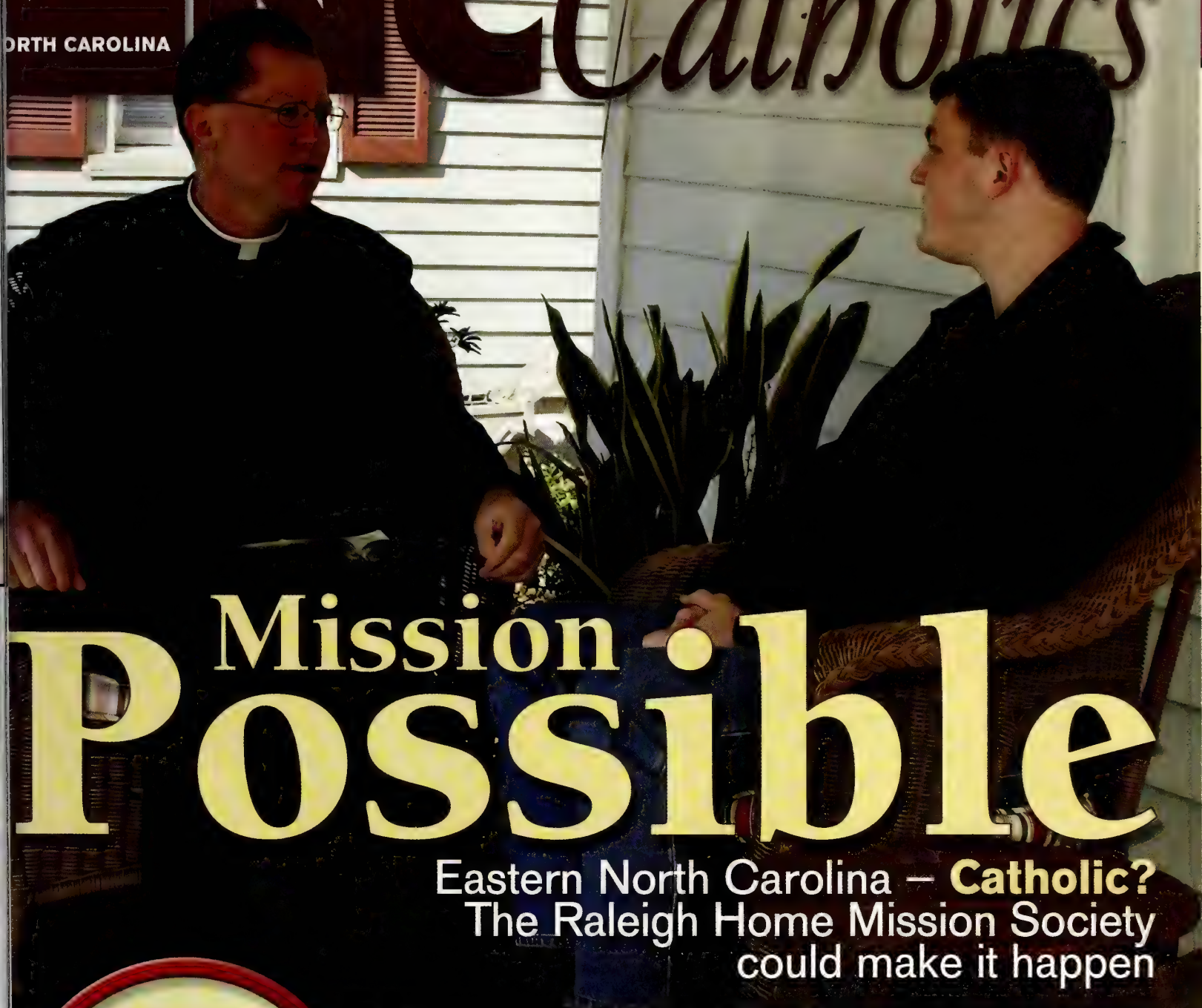
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

Jan./Feb., 2008

\$2.00



# Possible

Eastern North Carolina – **Catholic?**  
The Raleigh Home Mission Society  
could make it happen

Letter from  
the Bishop

**SPECIAL SECTION**

Annual Financial Report  
for the Diocese of  
Raleigh

Diocese of  
Raleigh news

parish profile

**Sisters  
Rejoice!**

Meet our jubilarians

**Looking  
for a home**  
Triangle Korean  
Catholic Community

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



**“T**urn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.” These are among the words which can be used as our foreheads are marked with ashes on Ash Wednesday and highlight for us the call of Jesus Christ and the message of this Lenten Season.



If we are to *turn away from our sins*, we must first humbly and honestly acknowledge them. We must identify those areas in our lives that are inconsistent with the ways of God and keep us from living lives of integrity and holiness. We must go before the Lord and admit those times we have failed the Lord, disappointed ourselves and offended one another. We must ask the Lord to pardon us and to give us the grace to begin anew.

**There is  
no sin greater  
than God's infinite mercy**

Thus, I strongly encourage you, especially in this Lenten Season, to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance. There will be Penance Services in all of the Deaneries in this sacred season. At those times, we are especially reminded that we gather as sisters and brothers in Christ to express our need for God's mercy and our willingness to support and encourage one another. Our parish priests also remain available for the celebration of this Sacrament both at regularly scheduled times and in any case of urgent need.

Always remember that *there is no sin greater than God's infinite mercy*. This precious gift is conveyed in a beautiful stained glass window in one of our parish churches.

**This sacred season  
presents a special  
invitation to allow  
God's love for you  
to consume all  
your sins.**

Within the beautiful and vibrant colors is this message from Saint Paul of the Cross: *"The fire of God's love consumes our sins like a piece of cotton in a forest fire."* This sacred season presents a special invitation to allow God's love for you to consume all your sins. It is my hope and prayer that you will accept this invitation and also ask your family members and those who have wandered from the Lord and His Church to do the same.

In thanksgiving for God's mercy received and strengthened by His grace, we must go forth then and be faithful to the Gospel. Our response to this call is seen through the Lenten practices of *prayer, fasting and almsgiving*. Slow down during this season and allow more time for daily prayer. Fast and sacrifice from those material pleasures which can easily take possession of you. Find specific ways to increase your generosity, especially to those in most need. These are the practices that reflect our deep desire to live in harmony with God and one another.

My brothers and sisters, may Our Lord Jesus bless you and those you love with abundant spiritual gifts in this sacred season and especially with the gift of His mercy in the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance. With His grace, may you respond always to His call, *"Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel."*

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge is Bishop of Raleigh.



# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

## cover story

### Mission Possible

►► Eastern North Carolina  
– Catholic? The Raleigh Home  
Mission Society could make it  
happen. – Rich Reece

# 12

Letter from  
the Bishop  
**SPECIAL SECTION**  
Annual Financial Report  
for the Diocese of  
Raleigh

## 29 special section

### Annual financial report summary

►► Complete statements at  
[www.dioceseofraleigh.org/who/diocese/audit/](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/who/diocese/audit/)

## el hispano Católico

### 16 el hispano católico

►► ¿El área rural de la  
parte Este de Carolina del  
Norte... zona católica? Una  
nueva iniciativa puede hacerlo  
realidad – Rich Reece

### 18 Ya que usted lo pregunta...

¿Es el aborto un pecado  
imperdonable?

– Reverendo Monsñor John Williams

### 19 Obispo Burbidge

"Apartense del pecado..."

– Obispo Michael F. Burbidge

## from the bishop

2 There is no sin greater than God's  
infinite mercy – Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

## since you asked ...

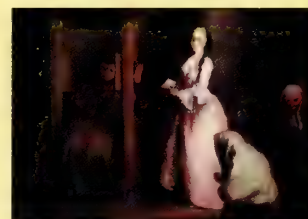
6 Dear NCC: Is abortion an unforgivable  
sin? – Rev. Msgr. John Williams

## from the editor

7 Preparing for the light  
– Rich Reece

## theology 101

8 reconciliation:  
healing our  
relationship  
with God and  
one another



## voices in our church

11 A seminarian's Lent  
– Msgr. Thomas Hadden

11 Tiempo de cuaresma  
– Padre Fernando Torres

## spiritual fitness

22 Reverence in prayer – the cross and  
the name of God – Father Bill Ashbaugh

## work life

27 Playing the blame game – Are you the  
one who's always right? – Tim Ryan

## parish profile

28 Looking for a home – Triangle Korean  
Catholic Community, New Hill  
– Rich Reece





# NC Catholics

The Magazine of the Catholic Church  
in Eastern North Carolina

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Jan./Feb 2008 • Vol. 4 : Issue 1

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Msgr. Gerald R. Lewis  
Sr. Lois MacGillivray, S.N.J.M.  
Father Fernando Torres  
Msgr. John Williams  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

Denmark Photo & Video (cover)  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vicki Bedard  
DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING

Jillane Job  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Lynne Ridenour  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Betsy Miner  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Michelle Sessions DiFranco  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™. Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730

## Four Religious Sisters celebrate Jubilees

►► On February 2, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge offered Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral for four religious sisters celebrating milestones of service in 2008.



# 60 YEARS

**Sister Maxine Tancraitor,  
C.D.P. – 60 Years**

►► Sister Maxine Tancraitor is a member of the Congregation of Divine Providence, whose mission it is to "make Providence more visible to the world." Sister spent

13 years of her ministry in Puerto Rico, teaching and administering in a high school sponsored by her congregation. After returning to the mainland, she served in pastoral ministry in the Pittsburgh area for 20 years, but yearned to work with the new Spanish-speaking immigrants to the U.S. She and Sister Theresine Gildea, C.D.P., began this ministry in Monroe, N.C., near Charlotte. When that community became more settled, they moved to Clinton, N.C., to serve in Immaculate Conception Parish and its two missions: Pink Hill and Posada Guadalupeana, Mt. Olive (now Maria Reina de las Americas Parish).

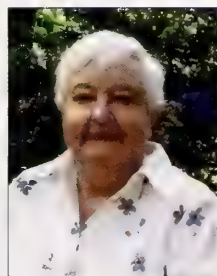
For the sisters, making Providence more visible in the Clinton area consists of responsiveness to the everyday needs of the people: teaching English as a second language, teaching catechetics, preparing parishioners for the sacraments, translating for healthcare workers, visiting the sick and imprisoned and making their home a sanctuary for those in need of a quiet place to pray and someone to talk to. The sisters used to drive 200 miles a weekend to attend the liturgies at the mission churches and to learn what the needs of these newest immigrants might be. Sister Maxine is embarking on a new venture at the county jail—teaching character education to inmates preparing to be released back to the community. She speaks of the joy she has known in her life in her community, where she made her commitment and never looked back. Her love for the people she works with as well as prayer and community sustain her. She is especially grateful to her sisters for putting the love and service of God before anything else. Sister Maxine is confident that others, like her, will continue to be attracted by a life of calm and joyous service.

Daughters of Wisdom. She came into the Church after her sophomore year. When she completed her training, she worked for 2 ½ years at a hospital in Portsmouth, Va., in the segregated unit. She says that those years remain the most instructive of her nursing career as she and the others in the unit made do with second-hand equipment and fewer resources than the adjacent white unit. Sister joined the Daughters of Wisdom, attracted by the hard work of the sisters, their willingness to do whatever was needed to help those in their care, and the special concern they had for poor women and children.

As a sister, Sister Edna worked in Brooklyn, N.Y., with children who had contracted polio, and led the maternity and pediatrics unit of a hospital in Port Jefferson, N.Y.. She came to UNC-Chapel Hill to earn a master's degree in nursing and sought an assignment where skilled nursing was difficult to find. She went to work for the N.C. Department of Health supervising and teaching the nurses in state health clinics in eastern N.C. After 20 years, Sister retired from her work for the state, and appreciates the time she now has to pray, read and serve within her community of Greenville and St. Gabriel's parish. She trains liturgical ministries at the parish, serves as guardian ad litem to two children in the area and keeps an open home where people can come to pray and talk. Her hobby is wood turning. Sister Edna has loved every ministry she has had and believes that others will commit to a life of religious consecration as they have ever since the time of Christ, even if the configuration is different from the past.

**Sister Edna  
English, D.W.  
– 50 Years**

►► Sister Edna English is a native North Carolinian, and was not a Catholic when she began nurse's training under the tutelage of the



# 50 YEARS





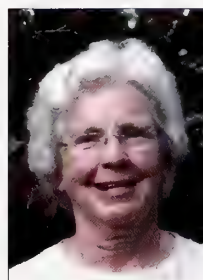
# 50 YEARS

## Sister Attracta Kelly, O.P. – 50 Years

▶ Sister Attracta Kelly joined the Adrian Dominican Sisters after growing up in a household that encouraged her to help others, particularly the less fortunate. Since Vatican II, the Adrian Dominican Sisters have focused their energies on poor and oppressed women; in more recent years that commitment has included people around the globe. The ministries that Sister Attracta has enjoyed reflect her congregation's interest in responding to the signs of the times. She taught in Fla. before being assigned as principal of a parish school in Montgomery, Ala., at the peak of the school integration tumult. She responded to a call from Bishop Dozier to assist in civil rights organization for African American residents of west Tennessee. Sister speaks with reverence of the courageous people she worked with who participated in meetings to request paved roads and piped water. She was able to see these residents advance to the point that they were serving on town councils and school boards. Sister Attracta spent three months in Northern Ireland, her birthplace, and during that time worked with the Jesuits at Portadown at a high point in sectarian violence. From there she was elected to leadership in her community and led its efforts in peace and justice.

During that time, the congregation was asked to provide safe residence for Central American refugees, denied residency by the U.S., until their papers arrived for transition to Canada. Aware of the vulnerability of such refugees, Sister Attracta attended law school, graduating from Catholic University School of Law and passing the bar exam for Maryland and Washington, D.C. sister currently leads the immigration law section of the N.C. Justice Center and supervises the

immigration law efforts for the Diocese of Raleigh in Raleigh, Wilmington and Greenville. Her greatest reward in this work is seeing a person or family able to establish their lives securely in this country. Sister believes that the life of religious consecration will continue in the future; yet it is likely to look different from today. She and another Adrian Dominican Sister welcome lay friends to their home for theological reading, reflection and discussion. It is a way of giving back for the educational opportunities they have had. Especially with the many demands on her time, Sister Attracta is sustained by opportunities for solitude and prayer.



# 50 YEARS

## Sister Monique Dissen, IHM – 50 Years

▶ Sister Monique Dissen is a member of the Scranton-based sisters,

Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM). The IHM spirit is joyful loving service, and Sister Monique expressed that spirit for 38 years teaching children in the primary grades. She loved starting the children out—teaching them that they were special, having them learn reading, love and respect. Sister spent her summers working with physically challenged children at St. Joseph's Center in Scranton and helping the infirm Sisters at the Marian Convent. After teaching, Sister spent a sabbatical with the Carmelite Sisters where she discerned that she would like to minister to the sick, the dying and their families. Sister has built this ministry at St. Paul's Parish in New Bern since 1998. Sister Monique teaches volunteers who visit the sick in their homes to give their caregivers time off, bring the Eucharist to patients from the surrounding areas at Craven Regional Medical Center and comfort those in the hospital's psychiatric ward. She reports that she and her team start on the top floor of the hospital and work their way downstairs visiting patients along the way. Sister also serves as an adjunct chaplain to all faiths at the hospital and has been honored for over 500 volunteer hours. More recently, Sister is working with a hospice nurse to facilitate a grieving group to those who recently lost a loved one, and they have completed their first seven-session grief ministry program.

Sister Monique considers this time in her life sacred because she walks with holy people. She attributes her vocation to the wonderful sisters who taught her and continue to edify her. Her faith is rooted deeply in the Eucharist and nourished by prayer. She is not worried about the future of religious life. "God is in charge," she says, "Plant a vineyard and they will come." Sister meets good people along the way and finds God's beauty everywhere when she has time for her hobby, photography.

– Sister Lois MacGillivray, S.N.J.M.



## Holy Cross, Durham, Dedicates New Church

▶ Sunday, Dec. 2 was a day of celebration and prayerful gratitude for parishioners of Holy Cross Church in Durham, as they were joined by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, Msgr Thomas P. Hadden, Vicar for African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization, priests of the Diocese and members of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), who have pastored the predominately African American church since it was established in 1939. The event was the dedication of a new church building, replacing the historic facility which has served the close-knit community since 1952.

**The new facility provides the parish with more worship space and room to grow. It comfortably seats 450 people, five times the number of the former church.**

received pledges totaling more than \$1 million. Additional funding came from the sale of the old site to the state and from the Diocese of Raleigh, which provided a loan, including some interest-free loan funds.

The dedication of the church was the first for Bishop Burbidge since his installation as Bishop of Raleigh in Aug., 2006. (For more about the journey of Holy Cross Parish, read *NC Catholics* November 2007.)



**Dear NCC:** I am a cradle Catholic and was a good Catholic until I graduated high school and left home, not attending church again until I got married and had children, about 12 years later.

I graduated in the early 80's and lived a foot loose and fancy free life style once I left home. I had a very good job, job security, traveled and was enjoying life until I became pregnant at 21. I was scared to death, and I knew my family would be very disappointed, as my oldest sister did the same and her life was just a mess. I immediately got an abortion. I soon realized that I had chosen the wrong path but it was too late. I was ashamed and saddened. I promised God I would clean up my ways and I did.

Around my early 30's I came back to church full force and have embraced my Catholic upbringing whole-heartedly. The only thing I have not done is go to reconciliation. I recently was given the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and it said I would be excommunicated from the Church for this act. How can I receive reconciliation if, when I confess my sins, I will be excommunicated? I love my faith but am scared I will no longer be wanted by the Church or my community. **Is abortion an unforgivable sin?**

**D**ear Friend, Peace be with you!  
You have grown in knowledge and in wisdom since that time when, young and fearful, you procured an abortion, without knowing what it was all about.

Last Advent many pastors blessed the wreath using a formula that includes this preamble: "Lord God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin." Not just sin but ignorance.

When he was an accomplice in the stoning of St. Stephen, the first martyr – St. Paul, who called himself the "foremost of sinner," did not then know Christ and His Body, the Church. But after he would see the light and be subsequently purified by it, grace would overflow!

St. Paul would say in confession (in his First Epistle to St. Timothy), "I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief" (1:14).

In youth, we will make decisions with important consequences – often without truth being raised up and personal mentoring being offered that would make a difference.

It was Christ who invented the parable of the Prodigal Son given us uniquely in St. Luke's gospel (15:11-32). Despite all the other names the Biblists have given to designate this parable more accurately, "Prodigal Son" has stuck. No matter the arrogance this young man formerly manifested, the Father was on the watch for his return; he would not permit the son even to lay out all the parts of the apology that he had so care-

# Dear NCC

This month with Msgr. John Williams

fully rehearsed, but ordered for a celebration, investing him with a ring, sandals and the finest robe. Our Savior's example of mercy for the son "who was lost and has been found" must be ever basic in the training of confessors. Unlike the older brother, the Father was focused on the present moment of grace rather than the past.

After reading your letter, I went back to the Catechism and discovered as much instruction on Confession for confessors as for penitents: "The confessor is not the master of God's forgiveness, but its servant ... He must pray and do penance for his penitent" (1466) "When he celebrates the sacrament of penance, the priest is fulfilling the ministry of the Good Shepherd ... of the Good Samaritan, ... of the Father [in the parable just cited]" (1465).

The Catechism does teach that "from the moment of conception ... from the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person – among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life" (2270). Although a penalty is attached to the sin of abortion

itself, as well as the use of abortifacient drugs, please be attentive to this complement in the text: "the Church does not thereby intend to restrict the scope of mercy" (2272).

The confessor may pardon the sin, lift the penalty, and apply spiritual medicine in a single life-giving action. The priest in the Sacrament of Penance is "the sign and instrument of God's merciful love for the sinner" (1465). In times past, many a confessor would send a penitent – the absolution given – away with the request, "Pray for me." That was not a pious aphorism. He has the overwhelming responsibility

to doctor souls with the love of Christ. But others in the Body of Christ build up reconciliation too.

For example, men and women in Project Rachel – that great work which ministers, by retreats and relationally in other ways, to those involved in abortion – will advance that before many (not all) can internalize God's forgiveness, there is a need to grieve over that lost child, to offer forgiveness to those who have hurt them, and to practice mercy upon themselves. Project Rachel stands by to administer healing to lives that may have been wounded by abortion, supplement-





ing a sacramental absolution that may have been conferred or preparing for it if it has not yet been administered.

When Jesus appeared to the apostles the night of His Resurrection, His very words, "Peace be with you!" must have resonated with hopefulness upon those who had acted out of fear on Good Friday and fled. In that same visitation, He appointed them practitioners of forgiveness, entrusting them with a great mission of mercy (John 20:21-23).

Your letter allows me the opportunity to extend that same greeting "Peace be with you!" in this glorious present moment of your life. But permit words of encouragement full of compassion to be extended from a no less accredited spokesman for the Church than the late Pope John Paul II:

"I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering

decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. Try, rather, to understand what happened and face it honestly. If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance.

"The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You will come to understand that nothing is definitely lost, and you will also be able to ask forgiveness from your child, who is now living in the Lord."

— Rev. Msgr. John Williams is Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Raleigh.

## Healing after abortion

► **Project Rachel Support Group** — A support group will be formed in the Triangle area in early Feb. Project Rachel assists women and men who have been wounded by abortion and seek truth and healing. For more information go to [www.projectrachelnc.org](http://www.projectrachelnc.org), or call 919.852.1021, or e-mail [projectrachel@nc.rr.com](mailto:projectrachel@nc.rr.com). All contacts are strictly confidential.

# Preparing for the Light

**The hope is that, Lent behind us, we can go as new people into the world, filling it "with the fragrance of Christ."**

**L**ast December I attended the dedication of the new Holy Cross Church in Durham. I'd never been to a church dedication before, and when the liturgy began I noticed that the lights were out. What was up? Was some of the electrical installation in this beautiful new structure still unfinished?

**It turned out there wasn't a problem.** After all the parts of the building — the walls, the water in the baptismal font, the altar — and the people were blessed with water, the Bishop anointed the altar, and then the walls of the church, with Chrism. Next, the walls and the people were honored with incense, and told that "as this building is filled with fragrance, so may your church fill the world with the fragrance of Christ."

Then, dramatically, the candles in the church were lit and the lights turned on, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist proceeded.

As Lent approaches, I'm recalling that ceremony and wondering if it doesn't mirror, in a way, this season when, through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, and the sacrament of penance, we prepare ourselves, we try to sanctify ourselves, for the coming of the resurrection. The hope is that, Lent behind us, we can go as new people into the world, filling it "with the fragrance of Christ."

**Throughout the history of our Diocese, Catholic missionaries have brought that fragrance to our state.** Our cover story this month speaks of those heroes, and reports on the Diocese of Raleigh Home Mission Society, the newest initiative in the pursuit of the missionaries' century-old dream: a Catholic North Carolina.

**Lent is a time, as Bishop Burbidge points out in his letter this month, to seek reconciliation.** On page 6, Msgr. John

Williams responds to a reader still grieving over an old sin, but afraid to ask forgiveness.

Finally, as this issue is in the mail, our Diocese will be honoring four women religious who are celebrating milestones of service and dedication to our Lord. One can only guess at the number of lives and souls these women have touched. *Jubilate!*

►► **Thank you for reading NC Catholics each month, and for letting me know what you think.** You can reach me at 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606, or [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).

— Richard Reece is the editor of NC Catholics.





# reconciliation

healing our relationship  
with God and one another

**H**uman existence is all about relationships. We come into this world with a need to be loved and to love in return. As infants, our parents or caregivers are vital to our existence. As children we need to be nurtured in a family and yet expand our circle of friends. We date and experience sometimes painful break-ups. We search for that "special someone" with whom we can share our life. When we offend a friend or family member, we seek forgiveness, so that we might repair our relationship. God knows this; that is why He invites us to the sacrament of reconciliation.

First and foremost, baptism is the sacrament that forgives personal and Original

Sin. Here, the Christian receives a gift of metanoia (a conversion) to the perfect

## timeline: 8 major developments

How did confession come about?

### Old Testament

- **Israelites developed rituals** for turning from sin to covenant living — sacrifices, ritual washings or purifications, sin offerings. Rabbits would "bind or loose" members of community. As a people, they would celebrate a Day of Atonement.

### Jesus/New Testament

- **John the Baptist** preaches repentance and practices ritual washings in the River Jordan (Mt 3; Mk 1; Lk 3; Jn 1-13).
- **Samaritan woman** meets Jesus at the well where He tells her of her sins and offers the water of everlasting life (Jn 4).



- **Woman caught in adultery** The crowd is about to stone the woman, Jesus asks if there is anyone sinless who might cast the first stone. He tells her to sin no more (Jn 8:1-11).
- **Holy Spirit** Jesus says to the apostles, "Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive they are forgiven them; whose sins you shall hold bound, they are held bound." (Jn 20: 22-23)

- **Disciples to correct sinners** Jesus gives the community a mission of reconciliation (Matthew 18: 15-18).
- **Paul teaches the Corinthians** to avoid association with amoral people and expel them from the community (1 Cor 5: 11-13) and that if one hurts another, he hurts the whole community (2 Cor 2: 5-10).



### 40 AD – 400 AD

- **Didache** "Confess your sins before the Church" so that you may be prepared for worship.
- **Baptism is the Sacrament for the forgiveness of sins** A catechumen had to show true conversion, even a change in lifestyle before baptism. After baptism, forgiveness of sins by prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and the reception of the Eucharist.
- **Apostates** During the persecutions, those who denied their faith were known as "apostates." This was a serious sin which demanded reconciliation with the community. "Reconversion" was necessary.
- **Canonical Penance** involved the whole community. The apostate would privately confess to a bishop. He joined the "order of penitents" and was assigned a penance. He might stand outside the church in sack-cloth, begging for forgiveness. Later, he would be invited in to hear the Word, then eventually receive a dramatic absolution and be re-admitted to the Eucharist, usually on Holy Thursday.



love of God and the grace to live as Christ taught us. In the sacrament of the Eucharist, too, we are welcomed to God's table and invited to share again and again in the redeeming sacrifice of Christ. But in a special way, the sacrament of reconciliation offers us an opportunity to encounter the living God, to confess our sinfulness, and to seek God's forgiveness.

The fundamental task of the Church is the prophetic announcement of Christ, the one who reconciles the world to the Father. We are ministers of that reconciliation.

Reconciliation between God and His people was brought about by our Lord

Jesus Christ in the mystery of his death and resurrection (Romans 5:10). The Lord entrusted the ministry of reconciliation to the Church in the person of the apostles (2 Cor. 5:18ff.).

The Church carries out this ministry ... by baptizing ... with water and the Holy Spirit. ... Because of human weakness, however,

Christians break off their fellowship with God by sinning. The Lord, therefore instituted a special sacrament of pen-

ance for the pardon of sins committed after baptism ... (Decree, SCDW, 1973).

Why do we confess our sins to another human being? As an ordained minister of

the Church, the priest represents Christ. We can expect the priest to receive us with the same love and compassion as Jesus. Just like us,

the priest knows what it is to need forgiveness. God transforms this very humanness into the medium of life-giv-

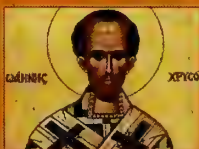
ing grace. When we hear the priest's words of absolution, we hear Christ's words of pardon and mercy.

God understands our human nature. While God always hears the silent call of one who is sorry for their sins, He knows that we need to acknowledge our offenses out loud and to experience forgiveness in words and gesture. Not only do we need to confess our sins, but we need to be relieved of the burden of them. That is why the Church teaches that private (auricular) confession is the ordinary means of celebrating the sacrament.

— Rita Thiron

**When we hear the priest's words of absolution, we hear Christ's words of pardon and mercy.**

• **St. John Chrysostom** is an early proponent of the necessity for the Sacrament.



### 5th Century to 7th Century

• **Tariff Penance** In Ireland and England, people begin to consult monastic priests when they are in need of forgiveness. The penitent goes to private confession and receives tariff penance — the monks had devised books ("Celtic penitentials" or libri paenitentialis) which contained lists or scales of penances commensurate with various sins. The Sacrament is celebrated privately and is repeatable.

### 7th Century to 12th Century

• **Irish and English religious** influence penitential practices on the continent of Europe. Tariff penances replace canonical penances. Rituals and prayers begin to be developed for



"confessions."

- **Absolution** given only after a penance was performed and contrition judged to be sincere.
- **Mortal vs. Venial** Distinctions made between "mortal sin" (death to the soul) and "venial sin" (pardonable without public penance).

### 13th Century to 20th Century

- **Fourth Lateran Council** in 1215 names Penance as an official Sacrament of the Church.
- **One must confess to a priest** who acts in the person of Christ.
- **Sacrament of Penance defined.** In 1551, the Council of Trent determined that 1) Christ instituted Penance as a Sacrament; 2) Contrition required for confession; 3) Serious sins need to be confessed according to type and quantity; 4) Penance is required although greatly reduced; 5) Penance may be done after confession and absolution; 6) Only priests can administer the sacrament, acting in the person of Christ.
- **The screen** The revised Roman Ritual of 1614 notes that confessions should be heard from behind a screen.

### Second Vatican Council



- **Lumen Gentium** redefines the Church as a Sacrament; the sign and instrument of God's presence.
- **Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy** calls for a revision of the rites and formularies for the Sacrament of Penance "so that they more clearly express both the nature and effect of the Sacrament" (30 #12). Emphasis is placed on the role of the community of the Church, where one is reconciled not only to God, but also to His Church, the Body of Christ.

### Dec. 2, 1973

- **Pope Paul VI** promulgates new Rite of Penance, also called the Sacrament of Reconciliation.





## Her name means "God's promise"

Blessed Isabel of France

**Feast day: Feb. 26**

**Patron saint of sick people**

**Meaning of name: God's promise, or dedicated to God**

**Claim to fame:** Isabel was born into France's royal family in 1225. She was the daughter of Louis VIII and Blanche of Castille. Her brother was King Louis IX. While at court, Isabel demonstrated piety and modesty, and a desire to be holy. She broke off an engagement to a count and even refused to marry Conrad, the son of German Emperor Frederick II, determined to stay a virgin. She founded the Franciscan Monastery of the Humility of the Blessed Virgin, a convent of the order of St. Clare (the Poor Clares), although the rules at Isabel's convent were not as strict as the rules of the order. Isabel herself never took vows, and refused the position of abbess. But she still practiced the same rules used in the convent and spent most of her life tending to the poor and sick of Paris. Several other convents adopted Isabel's rules, but there was never any formal religious order formed based on them.

**Why she is a saint:** St.

Isabel was born into luxury. She easily could have melted into the carefree, popular and often corrupt lifestyle at court, but instead persisted in her desire to remain chaste and holy.

**Best quote:** Isabel's piety and dedication to God and the church defined her life. It was said of her that "She was even more devoted to the Franciscan Order than to her royal brother."

**How she died:** Isabel died at her home in Longchamps on Feb. 23, 1260. Nine days after her death, her body was exhumed, and was found in perfect condition, with no signs of decay. In 1637, the body was again exhumed, still with no signs of decay.



St. Isabel was born into luxury. She easily could have melted into the carefree, popular and often corrupt lifestyle at court

Beata Isabel de Francia

**Día festivo: 26 de febrero**

**Santa patrona de los enfermos**

**Significado del nombre: Promesa de Dios, o dedicada a Dios**

**Hechos que la hicieron famosa:**

Isabel nació en la familia real francesa en 1225. Era hija de Luis VIII y Blanca de Castilla. Su hermano era el Rey Luis IX. Isabel demostró piedad y modestia y un deseo de consagrarse especialmente a Dios cuando estaba en la Corte. Rompió un compromiso con un conde y hasta rehusó a casarse con

Conrado, el hijo del Emperador Federico II de Alemania, decidida a permanecer virgen. Fundó el Monasterio Franciscano de la Humildad de la Bendita Virgen, un convento de la orden de Santa Clara (las Pobres Clarisas), aunque las reglas en el convento de Isabel no eran tan estrictas como las reglas de la orden. Isabel misma nunca hizo los votos, y rehusó el cargo de abadesa, pero ella aún practicó las mismas reglas usadas en el convento. Pasó la mayor parte de su vida atendiendo a los pobres y enfermos de París. Varios otros conventos adoptaron las reglas de Isabel, pero nunca hubo ninguna orden religiosa formal constituida con base a sus reglas.

**Por qué es una santa:** Santa Isabel nació en el lujo.

Fácilmente podría haberse acomodado a la vida despreocupada, popular y a menudo corrupta de la corte, pero en lugar de ello, persistió en su deseo de permanecer casta y consagrada al servicio de Dios.

**Mejor cita:** La piedad de Isabel y su consagración a Dios y la Iglesia definieron su vida. Se dijo de ella que «Ella era más fiel a la Orden Franciscana que a su hermano el rey».

**Cómo murió:** Isabel murió en su casa en Longchamps, el 23 de febrero de 1260. Nueve días después de su muerte, su cuerpo fue exhumado y se le halló en perfectas condiciones sin señales de descomposición. En 1637 el cuerpo fue nuevamente exhumado, todavía sin señales de descomposición.



## A seminarian's Lent

**T**he Church year is moving toward Lent. This is the season that in the Latin Missal is called Quadragesima, the 40 days when the Church calls us in a special way to pray, fast and give alms. It is a special time for saying "no" to self and "yes" to God.

My college seminary years were spent with the Benedictines of St. Meinrad Archabbey in Southern Indiana. This was a foundation of monks from the ancient shrine in Switzerland called Maria Einsiedeln. This abbey holds the venerated image of one of the Black Madonnas that are scattered throughout Europe, and was one of the many Marian Shrines I visited during my years as a seminarian at the North American College in Rome.

St. Meinrad was headed by Archabbot Ignatius Esser, O.S.B., a regal figure who seemed to actually glide around the Monastery, the Oblate School, the College and the School of Theology, but a kind, gracious, no-nonsense person.

**I was one of the skeptics who did not believe that Archabbot Ignatius would read them all.**

There was a custom that prior to Ash Wednesday, in keeping with the Benedictine way of life, all the people in the four divisions wrote out their Lenten resolutions. These were given to Archabbot Ignatius. There were hundreds of men in these four divisions. I was one of the skeptics who did not believe that Archabbot Ignatius would read them all.

When I submitted my three resolutions I wrote as one of the three, "I will not complain unnecessarily about the food during Lent." Our resolutions were returned on Fat Tuesday. I eagerly opened mine. The word *unnecessarily* was marked out. Above it was written in bold black ink: "Period!" The resolution then read, "I will not complain about the food during Lent. Period!"

Prayer, fasting and works of charity or good works are still part of Lent. The emphasis is the same: Turn from self to God. Turn from self-indulgence to helping others. — Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden

## Tiempo de cuaresma

**D**urante este tiempo la Iglesia nos recuerda que la Cuaresma no es solamente un tiempo de sufrimiento y de carencias, sino un tiempo de gracia para poder descubrir el gran amor de Dios por todos nosotros que nos llama a regresar a su casa, a seguir a su Hijo con nuestras vidas y a vivir en su Espíritu para vivir la conversión del Corazón. Por eso decimos que la Cuaresma es:

Tiempo de amor que requiere examen de los olvidos que hemos tenido para con Dios y con el prójimo, de las ofensas que hemos cometido, de los malos pensamientos y malas actitudes que hemos tenido para con los otros.

Tiempo de prueba para medir los apegos que llenan nuestra vida diaria, alejándonos de lo bueno, lo justo y lo verdadero, pero especialmente de Dios. De los días que hemos llenado de nuestros egoísmos, de las obras buenas que hemos dejado de hacer por nuestras perezas, envidias y rencores.

Tiempo de oración para regresar de nuevo a escuchar la voz de Dios en nuestro interior, para comprender su historia, su amor y su misterio Pascual, para acompañarlo en el camino al calvario y a la cruz, para transformar con su resurrección nuestra vida. Para entender por qué Jesús sigue muriendo hoy azotado en una cruz a causa de nuestro pecado, nuestras indiferencias y nuestra falta de compromiso.

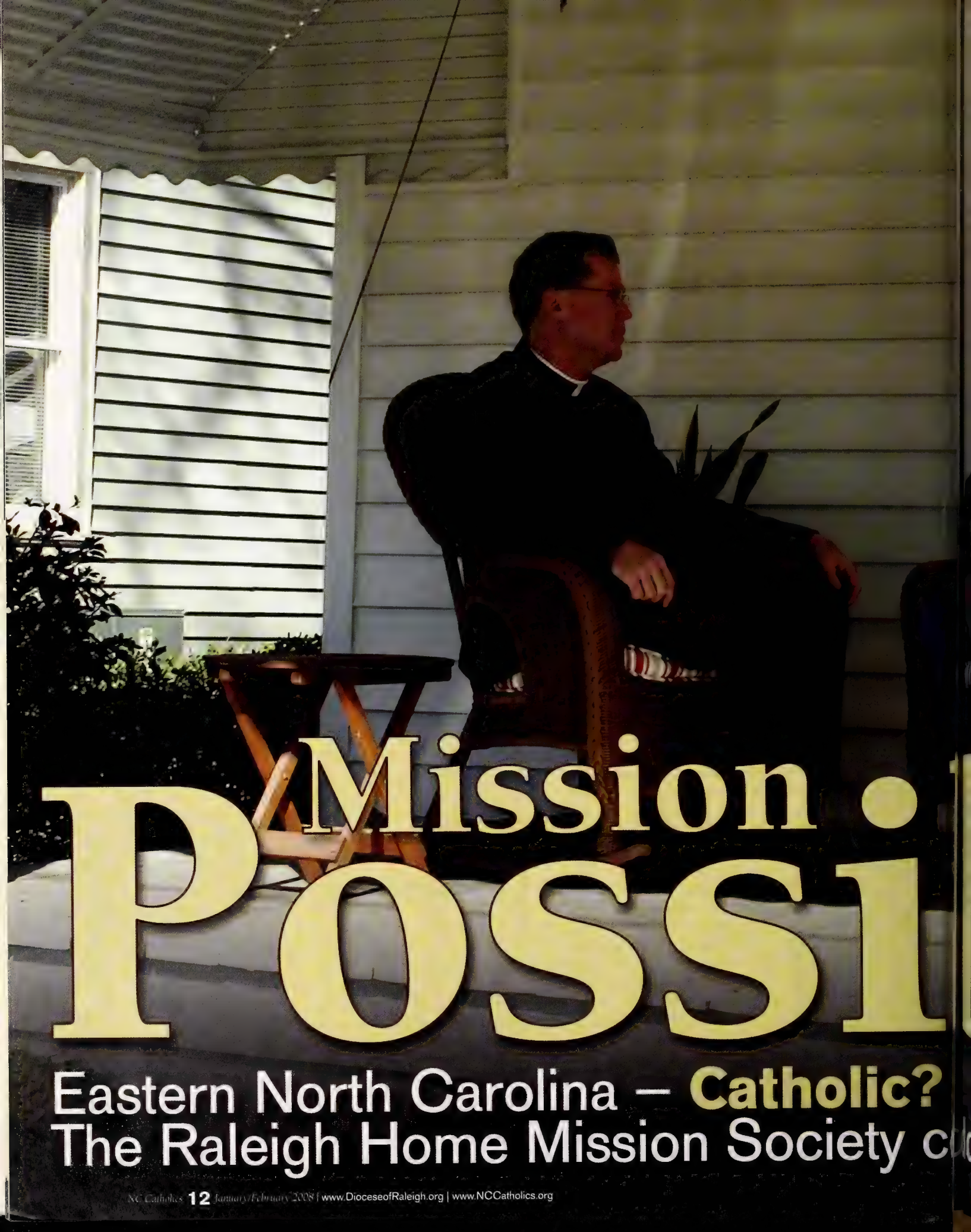
Tiempo para practicar la caridad con lo que tenemos, con lo que sabemos y con lo que hacemos en nuestra vida. Porque no solo es compartir nuestro dinero, sino que allí donde trabajamos, donde estudiamos y en el hogar que tenemos, estamos llamados a mejorar, dando signos del amor de Dios a nuestros semejantes.

Tiempo de vivir nuestras Eucaristías dominicales con la alegría de estar unidos en comunidad, con el compromiso de escuchar la Palabra de Dios, renovando nuestro compromiso bautismal y alimentándonos de su manjar celestial: la Sagrada Comunión.

Todo este tiempo tiene sentido, si vivimos en el amor de Dios y si dejamos que ese mismo amor transforme nuestras vidas. Vivamos este tiempo como una invitación de Dios y como una respuesta agradecida. — Padre Fernando Torres







# Possible Mission

Eastern North Carolina — Catholic?  
The Raleigh Home Mission Society c



## A story for Lent, 2008:

Once upon a time, the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh stretched across the entire state of North Carolina

— from Murphy to Manteo, as they say. If you knocked on the doors of people living in that Diocese, though, the chance of a Catholic answering your knock was one in 100. Even that number was high if you were traveling outside the cities. In the mountains of the west and the vast small-town farming country in the east, Catholics were a rarity, and Catholicism was suspect.

In fact, in those days, in the hills and hollers and the small farm towns, men and women actually were knocking on doors in search of Catholics, and in the hope of changing people's minds about Catholicism. You can see them in a film made in 1959, *In the Footsteps of the Tar Heel Apostle*: priests and seminarians in black suits and Fedoras, sisters in their habits, braving the heat of the summer and the chill of the natives to spread the faith.

Those missionaries were inspired, as the title of the film implies, by the Tar Heel Apostle, Servant of God Fr. Thomas Frederick Price, who had roamed the state at the turn of the century, seeking converts and training a generation of his followers to do the same. They were also inspired by their Bishop, Vincent S. Waters, whose dream was uncompromising: "Every Tar Heel a Catholic!" If that call to action seems a tad triumphalistic today, there is no mistaking the conviction in the eyes of the bishop who took as his motto *Omnia per Mariam* — "All Things Through Mary." There's also no mistaking the results of his efforts and those of his missionaries, in raising the Catholic profile in North Carolina: His successor, Bishop F. Joseph Gossman, would consecrate more than 50 churches throughout the state. ►



ble

ld make it happen



**W**hy is this a story for Lent? The hallmarks of the Lenten season are prayer, sacrifice and almsgiving, and the missionary effort in North Carolina could not have borne such fruit without all three. The sacrifice came from the missionaries themselves, but much of the prayer and most of the almsgiving came from elsewhere, as Catholics all over the U.S. contributed to the “home missions,” supporting evangelization in parts of the country, like North Carolina, where the Church was little known.

Perhaps the biggest financial support for home missions came from the Catholic Church Extension Society, founded in 1905 “to sustain and extend the Catholic Faith in poor and remote mission areas of the United States where diocesan resources are insufficient.” Since 1905, Catholic

**For almost the entire century, the Diocese of Raleigh depended on Catholic Extension to fund the building of churches and chapels in areas where a Catholic presence had been established.**

Extension has distributed more than \$450 million to mission dioceses to assist church building and repair, missionary salaries, seminarian education, evangelization and outreach programs, campus ministry and disaster relief.

For almost the entire century, the Diocese of Raleigh depended on Catholic Extension to fund the building of churches and chapels in areas

where a Catholic presence had been established. Then the support ended. Fr. James F. Garneau, a church historian, Pastor of St. Mary Church in Mt. Olive, NC and Dean of the Newton Grove Deanery, explains:

“In 2000, the Diocese had a very successful capital campaign which was able to create endowments to fund all kinds of ministerial efforts. It was never intended to address internal missionary concerns. But Catholic Extension understandably then saw our Diocese as less needy than other missionary territories – places like Brownsville, Texas, or Las Cruces, New Mexico. So that funding was lost, along with some of the activities it used to support, particu-



larly the building of mission churches.”

Ironically, that loss coincided with a potential missionary harvest such as Fr. Price and Bishop Waters could hardly have imagined, as the Diocese (now the eastern half of the state only) became home to hundreds of thousands of baptized Catholics from Latin America, new military families and immigrants from Northern states. Rather suddenly, the small churches





established in Catholic outposts over a century of evangelization were overflowing, and so far apart that the new faithful had difficulty reaching them.

Fr. Garneau cites St. Mary's in Mt. Olive as an example. "It seats 75," he said. "We have 350 registered families and many more unregistered."

Faced with this need, last Thanksgiving Bishop Michael F. Burbidge initiated what is likely the next chapter in the proud story of Catholic evangelization in North Carolina, creating the Diocese of Raleigh Home Mission Society, a program designed to assist small, rural communities in the Diocese to build places of sacred worship.

The Bishop appointed Fr. Garneau, who proposed the concept of the society, to chair an advisory board that will coordinate and oversee it. Among its initial tasks:

- Define the "Mission" area of the Diocese, and define what "Mission" means in the context of the Diocese of Raleigh Mission Society.
- Determine the amount of the need, both current and project needs.
- Prioritize the needs and make funding recommendations.
- Recommend funding options and processes.

Fr. Garneau contrasted the need in the rural areas with the need in the Triangle, which also has seen an influx of new

Catholics, primarily from states in the Northeast. "In the Triangle, the people coming in are predominantly white-collar, they own homes, and they can contribute substantially to building campaigns, so it's considered safe to lend money to facilitate that construction. Rural immigrants are mainly blue-collar; they own little, have little to contribute. At the

**Fr. Garneau cites St. Mary's in Mt. Olive as an example. "It seats 75," he said. "We have 350 registered families and many more unregistered."**

same time, building costs are up, so the gap between what's needed and what's available has grown."

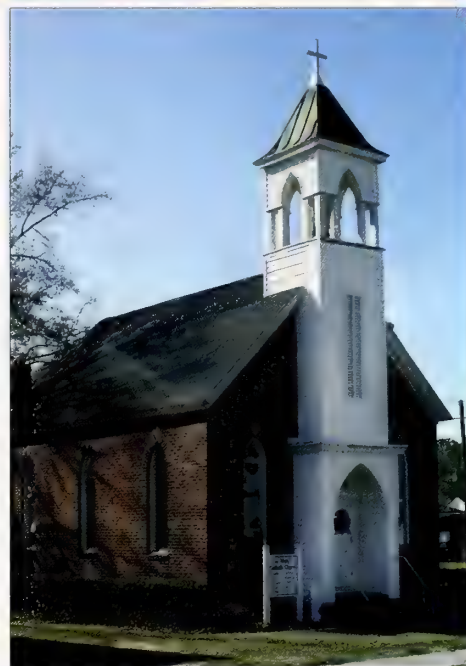
"Mission territory," Garneau says, could also refer to inner city neighborhoods, "but the immediate need is in places like Pink Hill, where a rented storefront is church for people in three counties."

Furthermore, Fr. Garneau is convinced that celebrating the sacraments and proclaiming the Gospel require sacred space. "Our new Catholics grew up worshipping in Catholic churches," he says, "and the look and feel of sacred surroundings are inseparable from that worship."

Funding for the new churches and chapels will come from several sources. The Diocesan Presbyteral Council, Diocesan Finance Council and Bishop's Annual Appeal Steering Committee recommended an increase in the 2008 Bishop's Annual Appeal goal that includes initial funding for the society. In addition, the society will consider additional sources of funding, including

- Benefactors and friends of the Diocese who have a special interest in supporting mission churches and would be able to make restricted donations to the society.
- A mission appeal collection in parishes that would augment any BAA funds for the construction projects and the running of the society office.
- Establishment of parish partnerships, where a large parish "adopts" a mission church.

Fr. Garneau is asked about a well-known but uncomfortable fact of North Carolina life: a vocal anti-immigrant contingent among its citizens. Will there be resistance to contributing money for "those people"?



"As Catholics," Garneau replies firmly, "we seek to bring the truth of the Gospel to the next generation regardless of their political status. They are Catholics, and they have a right to the Gospel and the sacraments. Furthermore, a great number of children are native born, and by every law and tradition are Americans. If signs of Catholic culture are not present here, there's little hope of maintaining Catholic identity. We must serve them now."

"The dream of the Church in North Carolina for 100 years now, the dream of Fr. Price and Bishop Waters, the dream shared by Bishops Gossman and Burbidge, is a reality. In order to sustain it, we have to meet the needs."

This new phase of mission in the Diocese of Raleigh, like the old one, will require prayer, sacrifice and almsgiving. The Catholic Home Mission Society, in a spirit of hope and resolve, is asking North Carolina Catholics for all three.

#### How You Can Help

For more information about the Home Mission Society, call or e-mail Fr. James F. Garneau at 919-658-4023 or [garneauj@raldioc.org](mailto:garneauj@raldioc.org). Contributions can be sent to The Diocese of Raleigh Home Mission Society, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606.



¿El área rural de la parte Este de Carolina del Norte... zona católica? Una nueva iniciativa puede hacerlo realidad  
Una historia para la cuaresma del 2008

# Misión Posible

**H**ace unos años, la Diócesis Católica de Raleigh creció a lo largo del Estado de Carolina del Norte; desde Murphy hasta Manteo, como dicen. Si tocabas a las puertas de las personas residentes de esa Diócesis, la posibilidad de que un católico contestase a la puerta era de una en cada 100 personas. Incluso ese número se incrementaba aun más si viajabas fuera de esas ciudades. En las montañas del Oeste y los pequeños pueblos del vasto campo del Este, los católicos eran una rareza y el Catolicismo quedaba a la imaginación.

De hecho, en aquellos días, en los pequeños pueblos granjeros, hombres y mujeres tocaban a las puertas en búsqueda de católicos, y tenían la esperanza de cambiar la percepción de esas personas con respecto al catolicismo. En una película de 1959 titulada *In the footsteps of the Tar Heel Apostle* se puede observar a sacerdotes y seminaristas en trajes negros y con sombreros Fedora y hermanas en hábitos soportando el inclemente calor del verano y la frialdad de los pobladores de difundir la fe.

Aquellos misioneros estaban inspirados, al igual que el título de la película, por el apóstol de los Talones de Alquitrán (Tar Heel Apostle) el Siervo de Dios, el Padre Thomas Frederick Price, quien recorrió el Estado a finales de siglo, buscando convertir y entrenar a una generación de sus seguidores para que siguieran con la tarea. Además, recibieron inspiración del Obispo Vincent S. Waters, cuyo sueño comprendía la conversión de todos los pobladores de Carolina del Norte (los talones de alquitrán) a católico! Si ese llamado parece un poco triunfalista hoy en día, ante los ojos del Obispo quien lleva como lema *Omnia per Maria*, Todo con María; también no existe error en el resultado de su esfuerzo y en el de sus misioneros, de enaltecer el perfil de los católicos en Carolina del Norte. Luego,

su sucesor, el Obispo F. Joseph Gossman, dedicó más de 50 iglesias a lo largo del Estado.

Pero, ¿por qué leemos esta historia para la cuaresma? El distintivo de la Cuaresma es la oración, el sacrificio, la ofrenda y el esfuerzo misionario en Carolina del Norte no hubiese podido dar frutos sin esos elementos. El sacrificio vino de los misioneros, pero muchas de las oraciones y las ofrendas provienen de los católicos de todos los rincones de los Estados Unidos quienes contribuyeron con las "casas de los misioneros" apoyando los esfuerzos de evangelización en partes del país como en Carolina del Norte donde el catolicismo no era tan conocido.

Quizás, la mayor ayuda financiera que recibieron las misiones provino de la Catholic Church Extension Society, fundada en 1905 "para mantener y extender la fe católica en áreas de bajos recursos y en áreas remotas del país donde los recursos de la diócesis son escasos." Desde 1905, la Extensión Católica ha distribuido más de \$450 millones de dólares a la misión de la diócesis para ayudar a la iglesia a construir y reparar iglesias, ayudar con los salarios, con la educación seminaria, con la evangelización y con los programas de ayuda, los programas



universitarios y ayuda en casos de emergencia. Por casi un siglo, la Diócesis de Raleigh depende de la Extensión Católica para sustentar la construcción de las iglesias y de las capillas en áreas donde la presencia católica se ha establecido, pero esta ayuda financiera fue suspendida. El Padre James Garneau, un historiador y párroco de la iglesia de St. Mary en Mt Olive en Carolina del Norte, explica la razón:

En el 2000, la Diócesis tuvo éxito en la campaña para recolectar capital y crear los donativos para fomentar todo tipo de esfuerzo ministerial. Esto nunca tuvo la intención de resolver asuntos internos de las misiones, pero la Extensión Católica entendió en aquel entonces que la Diócesis estaba menos necesitada que otros territorios misioneros; como por ejemplo lugares como Brownsville en Texas o como las Cruces en Nuevo México. Entonces esa ayuda financiera se perdió, al igual que otras actividades, en especial las construcciones de nuevas iglesias.

Irónicamente, esa pérdida coincide con una cosecha misionaria que ni el Padre Price y el Obispo Waters nunca imaginaron, como la Diócesis (ahora solo la parte Este del estado) se convirtió en el hogar de cientos de católicos bautizados de Latinoamérica. Pronto, las pequeñas iglesias establecidas en puestos católicos por más de un siglo de evangelización no se daban abasto eran tan distantes que los nuevos fieles tenían mucha dificultad en llegar a ellos.

El Padre Garneau se refiere a St. Mary en Mt. Olive como un ejemplo: -La iglesia tiene espacio para 75 personas, comenta -Tenemos a 350 familias registradas y a muchos otros sin registrar.

En vista de tanta necesidad, el año pasado durante la celebración de Acción de Gracias, el Obispo Michael F. Burbidge comenzó el

próximo capítulo de una exitosa historia de evangelización en Carolina del Norte, convirtiendo a la Diócesis de Raleigh como la cuna de la Sociedad Misionera, un programa designado para asistir a pequeñas comunidades rurales en la Diócesis para construir lugares de veneración.

El Obispo nombró al Padre Garneau, quien propuso el concepto de Sociedad para presidir una Junta Concejal que la coordine y la supervise. Entre sus tareas básicas se encuentran:

- **Definir el área "Misión" de la Diócesis, y definir el significado de "Misión" en el contexto de la Sociedad Misionera de la Diócesis de Raleigh.**
- **Determinar la necesidad actual y la de proyectos futuros.**
- **Establecer un orden de prioridad de las necesidades y elaborar recomendaciones para los fondos.**
- **Recomendar opciones de fondos y procesos.**

El Padre Garneau contrastó la necesidad de las áreas rurales con las necesidades de la ciudad, la cual ha tenido una afluencia de nuevos católicos de los estados del Norte de la parte Este del país. -En la ciudad, la gente profesional, con hogar propio, son los principales contribuyentes de las campañas, de esta manera es seguro realizar los préstamos para facilitar las construcciones. Los inmigrantes de las áreas rurales son en su mayoría obreros de pocos recursos que tienen poco que contribuir. Al mismo tiempo, los costos de las construcciones son elevados, lo que aumenta la brecha entre lo que es necesario y lo disponible.

Los Territorios Misioneros -comenta Garneau, también se refiere a las áreas dentro de las ciudades, pero las necesidades inmediatas están en lugares como Pink Hill,

donde un establecimiento alquilado sirve de iglesia para las personas de tres condados diferentes.

Además, el Padre Garneau está convencido que la celebración del sacramento y la proclamación del Evangelio requiere de un espacio sagrado -los católicos que están nuevos con la Diócesis crecieron venerando en iglesias Católicas, comenta -la apariencia y la sensación del ambiente son inseparables de la veneración.

Los fondos de las nuevas construcciones de iglesias y capillas provendrán de distintas fuentes, del Concejo Presbiteriano Diocesano, del Concejo de Finanzas de la Diócesis y del Comité del Consejo de la Campaña Anual del Obispo y con un incremento en la Campaña del Obispo del 2008 puede contribuir con los fondos de la Sociedad. Además, la Sociedad considerará fondos adicionales que incluyen:

- **Benefactores y amigos de la Diócesis quienes están especialmente interesados en apoyar la misión de la iglesia y podrían realizar limitadas donaciones a la Sociedad.**
- **Una campaña de misiones para la recolección de parroquias que puedan aumentar los fondos de la Campaña Anual del Obispo para la construcción de proyectos y el manejo de las oficinas de la Sociedad.**
- **Establecer sociedades entre las parroquias, donde la parroquia mas grande "adopte" a una misión de la iglesia.**

Le preguntamos al Padre Garneau acerca de un hecho incomodo y bien conocido en el día a día de Carolina del Norte: una voz en contra de los inmigrantes entre sus ciudadanos. ¿Como afectará esto el éxito de la iniciativa?

Como católicos, responde Garneau con firmeza -buscamos brindar la verdad del Evangelio a la siguiente generación sin importar su estatus político. Ellos también son católicos, y tienen el derecho de recibir el evangelio y los sacramentos. Además, un significativo número de niños han nacido aquí, y son estadounidenses bajo la ley y por las tradiciones. Donde no existen señales de una cultura católica aquí, no tenemos mucha esperanza en mantener la identidad católica, debemos servirles ahora.

El sueño de la iglesia en Carolina del Norte por casi 100 años, el sueño del Padre Price y del Obispo Waters, el sueño compartido por el Obispo Gossman y Burbidge es una realidad hoy, pero para mantenerlo, debemos establecer las necesidades.

Esta nueva faceta en la misión de la Diócesis de Raleigh, al igual que la anterior, requiere de mucha oración, sacrificio y caridad. La Sociedad Misionera, en espíritu de esperanza y determinación le pide a los católicos de Carolina del Norte por esos tres.



# Ya que usted lo pregunta...

Este mes con el Reverendo Monseñor John Williams

**Querido Lector:** Soy un Católico de cuna y fui un buen católico hasta que me gradué de la secundaria y me fui de mi casa, no asistí a la iglesia hasta que me case y tuve hijos, por unos 12 años.

Me gradué en los años 80 y viví una vida de libertinaje y de un estilo de vida libre una vez que salí de casa. Tenía un buen trabajo, seguridad laboral, viajaba y disfrutaba de la vida hasta que me embaracé a los 21 años. Estuve muerta de miedo, y sabía que mi familia se decepcionaría de mí, porque mi hermana mayor hizo lo mismo y su vida fue un desastre. Inmediatamente me provoqué un aborto y enseguida me di cuenta de que tomé una mala decisión pero ya era demasiado tarde. Estuve avergonzada y entristecida y le prometí a Dios que iba a limpiar mi camino y lo hice.

A mis 30 años regrese a la iglesia para retomar mi fe católica con todo el corazón. La única cosa que no he hecho aun es la reconciliación. Hace poco, recibí un catecismo de la iglesia católica y dice que un acto como este resultaría en la excomunión de la iglesia. ¿Cómo podría recibir la reconciliación si al confesar mis pecados, resultaría en la excomunión? Amo mi fe pero tengo miedo de no ser querida por la iglesia ni por mi comunidad. ¿Es el aborto un pecado imperdonable?

**Q**uerida amiga, que la paz sea contigo!  
Has crecido en conocimiento y madurez desde aquel momento cuando, joven y temerosa decidiste abortar, sin saber de las consecuencias.

La pasada temporada de adviento muchos párrocos bendijeron la corona usando una fórmula que incluye este preámbulo: Señor Dios tu Iglesia está a la espera de la llagada de su Salvador, quien ilustra nuestros corazones y disipa la oscuridad de la ignorancia y el pecado" No solo el pecado, sino la ignorancia.

Cuando él fue cómplice del apedreamiento de San Esteban, el primer mártir San Pablo, quien se refiere a sí mismo como "el mayor de los pecadores," no conocía en aquel entonces a Cristo y Su Cuerpo, pero después vería la luz y sería purificado por ella, la gracia sería abundante!

San Pablo dijo en secreto de confesión (en su

Primera Carta a San Timoteo) "Dios tuvo misericordia de mí porque yo era un incrédulo y actuaba con ignorancia" (1:14)

En la adolescencia tomamos decisiones con grandes consecuencias, solo la verdadera tutoría haría la diferencia.

Fue Cristo el que inventó la parábola del Hijo Prodigio como lo dice en el evangelio según San Lucas (15:11-32) A pesar de todos los nombres que los biblistas le han designado a esta parábola, el nombre de "hijo prodigio" ha perdurado. Sin importar la

arrogancia manifestada por este joven, el Padre estuvo a la espera de su regreso; no le permitió que el hijo expresara la disculpa que había preparado tan meticulosamente, sin embargo, hizo una fiesta, vistiéndolo con un anillo, unas sandalias y las mejores de las túnicas. Nuestro Salvador, ejemplo de misericordia por su hijo "quien se había perdido y luego encontrado" debe ser fundamental en el entrenamiento de los confesores. A diferencia del otro hermano, el Padre se concentró en el momento presente de la gracia y no en el pasado.

Después de leer su carta, leí el Catecismo y descubrí instrucciones sobre la Confesión para los confesores y las penitencias. —El confesor no es el amo del perdón de Dios, sino más bien

el sirviente... Él debe orar y cumplir una penitencia por su penitente. (1466) —Cuando celebran el sacramento de la penitencia, el sacerdote está en cumplimiento del ministerio del Buen Pastor... del Buen Samaritano... y del Padre (en la parábola citada) (1465)

El catecismo enseña que "desde el momento de la concepción... desde el primer Segundo de su existencia, el ser humano debe ser reconocido con el derecho de ser persona, el cual es un derecho inviolable de toda vida inocente. (2270) A pesar de que una penalidad está vinculada al pecado del aborto como tal, al igual que el uso de drogas que provoquen el aborto, por favor preste atención a la siguiente cita textual: "la Iglesia no tiene intención de restringir de ninguna manera el acto de misericordia" (2272)

El confesor puede perdonar el pecado, levantar la penalidad, y aplicar medicina espiritual en un intento de dar vida. El sacerdote en el sacramento de penitencia es "la señal y el instrumento del amor misericordioso de Dios por los pecadores" (1465) En el pasado, muchos confesores aplicaban una penitencia, la absolución conjunta con la solicitud "ora por mí" Eso no era un pious aphorism, él tiene la abrumante responsabilidad de curar las almas con el amor de Cristo, pero otras personas construyen con el Cuerpo de Cristo la reconciliación.

Por ejemplo, los hombres y las mujeres en el Proyecto Rachel, ese gran trabajo que realiza, por los retiros y en otras maneras, para aquellos involucrados en el aborto, asegura que ante muchos (no todos) puede interiorizar el perdón de Dios, existe una necesidad de llorar por ese bebé perdido, para ofrecer perdón a aquellos que han herido, y practicado la misericordia entre ellos mismos. El Proyecto Rachel brinda sanación a aquellas vidas que han sido heridas por el aborto, complementando con el sacramento de la absolución que ha sido conferido o preparado en caso de que no haya sido administrado.

Cuando Jesús se apareció a los apóstoles la noche de Su Resurrección, Sus propias palabras fueron "¡Que la paz sea contigo!" repercutieron con esperanza entre aquellos que huyeron por miedo el Viernes Santo. En ese mismo momento, Él los nombró como los practicantes del perdón, confiándoles la gran misión de la misericordia (San Juan 20:21-23)

Esta carta me permite la oportunidad de extender el mismo mensaje "¡La Paz sea contigo!" en este glorioso momento de tu vida. Sin embargo,





Cuando Jesús se apareció a los apóstoles la noche de Su Resurrección ... **Él los nombró como los practicantes del perdón, confiándoles la gran misión de la misericordia**

permite palabras de ánimo llenas de compasión expresadas por el orador de la Iglesia, Juan Pablo II:

"Me gustaría decir unas palabras de aliento a las mujeres que han tenido abortos. La Iglesia está consiente de los factores que influenciaron esta decisión, y sin duda, en muchos de los casos fueron dolorosos y destructivos. La herida en sus corazones quizás no ha sanado aun. Sin duda, lo que sucedió fue y permanecerá como algo terrible, pero no se desalientes y no pierdan la fe. Traten de entender lo que sucedió y afróntelo con honestidad. Si no lo han hecho aun, arrepíentanse con humildad y sinceridad.

"El Padre de la misericordia está listo para brindar su perdón y su paz en el Sacramento de la Reconciliación; así entenderán que nada está completamente perdido y podrás pedir perdón por ese hijo que ahora vive con el Señor." ✠

— Reverendo Monseñor John Williams es el Párroco de St. Joseph en Raleigh.

### Project Rachel Support Group (Proyecto Rachel)

► **Un grupo abrirá sus puertas en el área de Raleigh a comienzos de febrero.** Este grupo ayuda a hombres y mujeres quienes han sufrido por el aborto y buscan una verdadera sanación. Para mas información ingrese al sitio Web: [www.projectrachelnc.org](http://www.projectrachelnc.org) o llame por el siguiente teléfono: 919-852-1021 o por el correo electrónico: [projectrachel@nc.rr](mailto:projectrachel@nc.rr). Toda la información es estrictamente confidencial.

## No hay pecado más grande a la infinita misericordia de Dios

**A** pártense del pecado y crean en el Evangelio" Estas palabras incluidas en una de las liturgias son las cenizas aplicadas en nuestras frentes el Miércoles de Ceniza, y lo mas relevante para nosotros es el llamado de Jesucristo y el mensaje de la cuaresma.

Si nos apartamos del pecado, debemos conciente y humildemente, reconocer nuestros pecados. Debemos identificar aquellas áreas de nuestras vidas en las cuales no cumplimos con Dios y nos previenen de vivir nuestra vida con integridad. Debemos ir frente al Señor y admitir las veces en la que le hemos fallado, desilusionado a nosotros mismos y a los demás.

Debemos pedirle al Señor que nos perdone y nos brinde la gracia de comenzar de nuevo.

De esta manera, les recomiendo que durante la cuaresma, celebren el Sacramento de la Penitencia, la cual será brindada en los Diaconatos esta temporada sagrada. Durante este

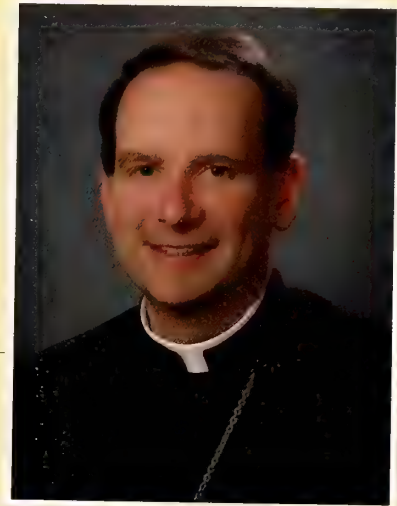
**Esta temporada sagrada nos presenta una invitación a permitir que el amor de Dios por ustedes consuma todos sus pecados.**

se encuentra el mensaje de San Pablo en la Cruz: "El fuego del amor de Dios consume nuestros pecados como una mota de algodón en un incendio forestal" Esta temporada sagrada nos presenta una invitación a permitir que el amor de Dios por ustedes consuma todos sus pecados. Es mi esperanza que acepten esta invitación e inviten a sus familiares y a aquellos que permanecen alejados del Señor y Su Iglesia a que hagan lo mismo.

En la acción de gracias por la misericordia del Señor y fortalecidos por Su gracia, debemos seguir adelante y permanecer fieles al Evangelio. Nuestra respuesta a este llamado se demuestra en la oración, en el ayuno y la limosna durante la cuaresma. Durante esta temporada dedíquense más tiempo a la oración diaria, el ayuno y el sacrificio de los placeres materiales que pueden adueñarse fácilmente de ustedes. Encuentren formas específicas de incrementar su generosidad, especialmente con los más necesitados; estas son practicas que reflejan nuestro profundo deseo de vivir en armonía con Dios y con el prójimo.

Hermanos y hermanas, que Nuestro Señor Jesús los bendiga a ustedes y a sus seres queridos con abundantes regalos espirituales esta temporada sagrada, especialmente con el regalo de Su misericordia en la celebración del Sacramento de la Penitencia. Con Su gracia, respondan siempre a Su llamado y "apártense del pecado y crean en el Evangelio"

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh





# Reverence in prayer the cross and the name of God

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.” (Matt 6:9)  
“Do not take the Lord’s name in vain.” As Jesus said, we are to “hallow” the name of God. God’s name is holy and deserves our utmost care and respect in its use. It seems that we can grow very casual in our use of God’s name or things related to God. It is possible to wear religious objects and sacramentals such as crosses in a very casual or thoughtless way. We may use them in vain, just as we can use God’s name in vain. So, our spiritual fitness this month will focus on how we can increase our love and reverence for the name of God and the cross of Jesus Christ. If we have misused either of them, there is a way in which we can find forgiveness – through contrition (sorrow) for our sins, and confessing those sins to a priest in the sacrament of reconciliation. Before we enter the spiritual exercises, let’s consider the cross of Jesus.

The cross is at the heart of our Lenten journey. It stands as a sign of contradiction to the wisdom of the world. “The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to those who are being saved, it is the power of God.” (1 Cor 1:18)

As Catholics, we begin our prayers and

worship of God by making the sign of the cross on our bodies and saying, “In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.” It is so automatic for Catholics, we do it without much thought. In marking ourselves with the sign of the cross, we acknowledge the cross of Jesus claims us. The cross of Jesus saves us. St. Bernadette Soubirous, who saw our Blessed Mother at Lourdes, France, was observed making a very reverent and thoughtful sign of the cross as she began her prayers. It was not a hurried action, but full of devotion and care. Bernadette was imitating Mary! How important it is for us to know the meaning of the cross

in our lives. The cross of Jesus puts sin to death in us. We each have a cross to carry that unites us to the suffering of Jesus. If we have such an understanding, we respect and reverence the cross. Knowing that the cross is precious and sacred, we should not make the sign of the cross or wear the cross in vain.

Through the cross, we have access to the grace of baptism and entrance into the family of God. This is also the focus of our Lenten journey. We renew our baptismal graces as we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus. We actively participate and experience Christ’s saving death and resurrection. In dying with Jesus on the cross, sin dies in us. This is the same dying that occurs in baptism. When we rise from the waters of baptism, we rise with the risen Christ as adopted sons and daughters. We are born through baptism in water and the Spirit into new children of God’s family. At this time, we receive the ability to call God a new name – Father! So, our knowing God as Trinity was made possible by the cross of Jesus Christ. No wonder we begin our prayers with the sign of the cross and by speaking out the name of the Most Holy Trinity.

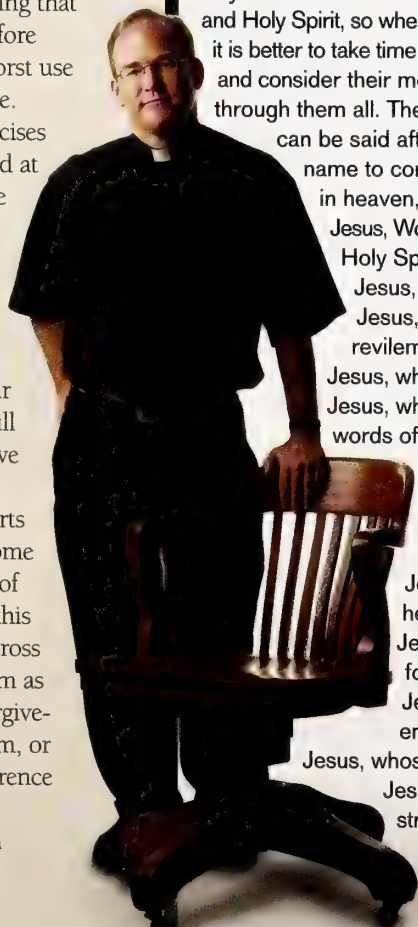


To speak someone's name is to acknowledge that person's presence. When we speak the name of God the Father or our Lord Jesus or the Holy Spirit, we acknowledge they are present. And not only that, we also acknowledge we are adopted children of the Trinity. I can say, "In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit" because I am "in" the family. I belong! As a son or daughter, I have a status in the family. As the letter of John says, "See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called children of God. Yet, so we are." (1 John 3:1)

So, if we misuse God's name, we hurt ourselves, for we are misusing our own family name. We hurt our own identity, not recognizing that God is our beloved Father, Jesus our beloved savior and brother, and the Spirit our beloved advocate and counselor. We end up joining those who surrounded Jesus while he died on the cross and blasphemed him. They reviled Christ, not recognizing that God was present before them. That is the worst use of the human tongue.

Our spiritual exercises this month are aimed at helping us overcome bad habits and a routine or empty use of the sign of the cross. If we can rid our mouths of unholy words, our minds and hearts will be emptied, too. If we fill our mouths with holy words, our hearts and minds will become holy, too. The cross of Jesus is essential to this because before the cross we either confess him as savior, asking for forgiveness and adoring him, or we show our indifference and curse him.

— Father Bill Ashbaugh



## spiritual exercise

**1 With deliberation and care, make the sign of the cross.** Hold a cross in your hand. If you wear a cross, take hold of it.

**2 Read Mark's account of the passion of Jesus in Chapter 15.** Consider what came out of the mouths of those who were in the presence of Jesus Christ.

**3 Read Luke's account in Chapter 23:33-48.** Again consider what came out of the mouths of those who were with Jesus.

**4 Imagine yourself before the cross of Jesus.** Think about the way you have talked about God in your life. How have you talked about people? How have you used your lips? Ask for forgiveness if you have sinned in speech.

**5 Express your sorrow – contrition of heart – to Jesus.**

**6 Pray this litany before a cross and feel the words on your lips.** I have listed many titles and names for God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, so when you come to them, it is better to take time to say a few names and consider their meaning, than to rush through them all. The words in bold print

can be said after pronouncing each name to continue the litany. Father in heaven, **have mercy on me.**

Jesus, Word of God made flesh,

Holy Spirit, Breath of God,

Jesus, most gentle of heart,

Jesus, who suffered

revilement,

Jesus, who suffered indifference,

Jesus, who was scourged with

words of abuse and unbelief,

Jesus, whose words

give life,

Jesus, whose words

give hope,

Jesus, whose words

heal,

Jesus, whose words

forgive,

Jesus, whose words

encourage,

Jesus, whose words console,

Jesus, whose words

strengthen faith,

Jesus, whose words

defend,

Jesus, whose words dispel evil,

Jesus, whose words correct error,

Jesus, whose words destroy what is false,

Jesus, whose words enflame our hearts with love,

Jesus, whose words bring joy,

Jesus, whose word is truth,

Jesus, whose word is love,

**God the Father, your Name is holy. Help me to know you.**

Abba, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Father of Mercies, Father of Lights, Father of Glory, Father of Spirits, Almighty God (El Shaddai), God of our Fathers, God of All Comfort, God of Peace, God of Glory, Living God, Most High God, Majestic Glory, Eternal Immortal Invisible King, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, Father of Heaven and Earth.

**God the Son, your Name is holy. Help me to serve you.**

Jesus, Good Shepherd, Wisdom of God, Substitute for Sinners, Suffering Servant, Lord of Righteousness, Lord our Portion, Glory of the Lord, Messiah, Prince of Peace, Child of Bethlehem, Faithful One, Morning Star, Desire of Nations, Fountain Opened for Sinners, Sun of Righteousness, Son of David, Son of Man, Son of God, Lamb of God, Ascended Lord, Crucified Savior, Power of God, Reconciler, Joy of Saints, Hope of Salvation, Coming Lord, Bread of Life, Beginning and the End, Light of the World, Risen Lord.

**God the Holy Spirit, your Name is holy. Help me to love you.**

Holy Spirit, Spirit of Truth, Spirit of Grace, Spirit of Goodness, Giver of Life, Giver of Divine Gifts, Eternal Spirit, Power of the Most High, Spirit of the Father, Spirit of the Son, Advocate, Paraclete, Counselor, Spirit of Love, Spirit of Wisdom, Spirit of Knowledge, Spirit of Understanding, Spirit of Courage, Spirit of Holy Fear, Purity of God, Holiness of God, Healer of Souls, Protector of the Poor, Defender of the Persecuted, Giver of Praise, Giver of Holy Speech, Love of God. Amen.

**7 Express your sorrow for your sins by going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.**

What a great way to celebrate and receive the grace, the power and the mercy of God that has come to us through the cross!





Joseph Long, Carol Walters, Dr. John Pendergrass, Joan Marion, Dr. Terence Jackson and Jan Vallero, recognized for their milestone anniversaries at the annual RELM Mass.

### Annual Mass held for Ecclesial Lay Ministers

▶▶ Bishop Michael F. Burbidge celebrated the annual Raleigh Ecclesial Lay Ministers (RELM) Mass at St. Raphael Church in Raleigh on Saturday, Dec. 1. Father Marcos Leon-Angulo, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Whiteville, concelebrated.

At the liturgy, special recognition was given to lay ministers of the diocese who were celebrating significant milestones of service: Mr. Joseph Long, 15 years; Ms. Joan Marion, 10 years; Dr. John Pendergrass, 20 years; Mrs. Janis Vallero, 15 years; Mrs. Carol Walters, 25 years; and Dr. Terence Jackson, retiring.

RELM was established in 2002 as an umbrella organization through which ministry groups can unite for common spiritual and professional development opportunities. It invites to membership all those who regard their church-related service, paid or unpaid, as ministry.



### PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE DECEASED PRIESTS DURING THE UPCOMING MONTHS

#### JANUARY

Msgr. Charles J. O'Connor, 1976  
Msgr. Edward T. Gilbert, 1983  
Msgr. Michael A. Irwin, 1952  
Msgr. Eugene H. Livelsberger, 1987  
Rev. Charles E. Sweeney, 1958  
Rev. Robert J. MacMillan, 1962  
Rev. Cletus J. Helfrich, 1971

Rev. Kenneth I. Parker, 1976  
Rev. Kevin C. Fahey, 2002  
Rev. Bernard J. McDewitt, 1942  
Msgr. Lawrence C. Newman, 1981  
Rev. Arthur J. Racette, 1975  
Rev. Thomas E. Curran, 1983  
Rev. Philip J. O'Mara, 1975

#### FEBRUARY

Rev. John G. O'Brien, 1997  
Rev. Richard E. Barrett, 1959  
Rev. Clarence F. Hill, 1966  
Rev. George A. Watkins, 1948  
Rev. James W. Kennedy, 1970

Rev. Francis K. Brennan, 1962  
Rev. Edward J. Beatty, 1990  
Rev. Lawrence J. Hill, 1985  
Rev. Vincent J. Mahoney, 1977  
Rev. Francis J. Tait, 1988

#### MARCH

Rev. Eugene J. (Chip) O'Toole, 1996  
Rev. John H. Huston, 1976  
Rev. William McNulty, M.S., 1992  
Rev. Francis J. Gorham, 1981  
Rev. Francis J. Morrissey, 1949  
Rev. Richard Harper, S.J., 1991  
Rev. Robert Wilken, 1993  
Msgr. William F. O'Brien, 1960

Rev. James Gallagher, 1950  
Rev. John D. Kells, 1990  
Rev. Elias Zaytoun, 1941  
Rev. John M. Breunig, 1985  
Msgr. James E. McSweeney, V.G., 1999  
Rev. James E. Waters, 1996  
Rev. Justin P. Pechulis, 1983  
Rev. Aloysius Adler, 1954

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COUNCIL

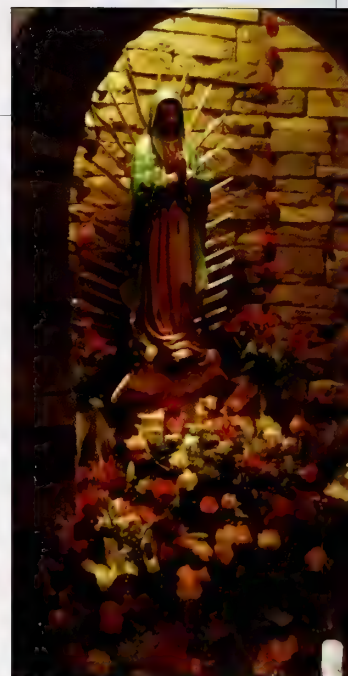
### Churches throughout diocese honor Our Lady of Guadalupe

▶▶ On Dec. 12, more than 30 churches throughout the diocese celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of Mexico. At St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Wake Forest, the Hispanic community filled the church at 4:30 a.m. for mananitas, morning prayer and song to Our Lady, followed by Mass and a meal. Mass goers prayed and placed flowers at the church's new shrine of our Lady of Guadalupe (photo at right). At homily time, St. Catherine Pastor Father Philip Tighe gathered the children in the congregation in front of the sanctuary and told them in Spanish and English the story of Mary's appearance to Juan Diego, a poor Mexican laborer, on Dec. 9, 1531.

When Mary appeared, she identified herself as the Mother of the True God, Creator of all things, and asked Juan Diego to request the local bishop to build a church on the site of the apparition. The bishop at first hesitated, telling Juan Diego he would like to see a sign from the Virgin Mary.

Three days later, she again appeared to Juan Diego, sending him to the top of the hill to gather an assortment of roses miraculously blooming in mid-December. Juan Diego placed the flowers inside his tilma, a poor-quality cactus cloth, and went back to the bishop. Standing before him, Juan Diego opened his garment. As the roses fell to the floor, they revealed an image of the Holy Mother on the tilma.

The bishop was convinced and built the first sanctuary in 1533. The current Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe was built in Mexico City in 1976. An estimated 10 million people visit the site every year, making it the most popular Marian shrine in the world.



### Lutheran-Roman Catholic Covenant Affirmed

▶▶ The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of the Diocese of Raleigh, and Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte, joined the Reverend Leonard Bolick, Bishop of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in affirming a Covenant between the two Christian denominations that dates back to 1991.

This is the fourth affirmation of the Covenant. It is signed periodically each time there is a change of bishops in either faith group. This was the first affirmation of the Covenant by Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Jugis.

The Covenant upholds the belief that "the will of the Lord Jesus Christ [is] that we 'all may be one.'" It recognizes that "all unity comes from the unity of the Triune God Father, Son and Holy Spirit" and "that in Christ, God was reconciling the world, calling all races, cultures and nations to be built up in Christ's body, the Church until all attain to the unity of faith."

"The heart of our Covenant," Bishop Burbidge said, "is our love for Jesus Christ, the one who unites us. The Covenant is our commitment to use our diverse talents and gifts to build up the body of Christ."







Bishop Michael Burbidge speaks at the interfaith memorial prayer service in Riegelwood.

## Riegelwood Catholics remember tornado victims

▶▶ On Nov. 18, Christ the King Catholic Church in Riegelwood commemorated victims of a tornado that took the lives of eight people in the community on Nov. 16, 2006. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Mass for the parish community to mark the anniversary. Msgr. Matthew Hendrick, pastor of St. Mark Catholic Church in Wilmington and of Christ the King Church, was the homilist.

Following the Mass, Bishop Burbidge, Msgr. Hendrick and Father Marcos Leon-Angulo, former Parochial Vicar of Christ the King Church, took part in an interfaith prayer service at the Riegelwood Community Center, where the Bishop blessed a memorial stone inscribed with the names of the deceased. Catholic parishes donated more than \$100,000 to the victims' families, relief administered by the Catholic Charities Regional Office in Wilmington. The office continues to provide additional assistance as part of the Riegelwood Disaster Relief Committee.



## Our National Shrine – a work in progress

▶▶ In November, the committee to plan the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception met with the staff of the National Shrine to arrange the details of the pilgrimage. The extra-special reward of this visit was to renew our appreciation of the shrine itself. It is a magnificent tribute to Our Blessed Mother and to the people of our nation who have made it possible. Part of the beauty of the shrine is that it is still, after 73 years, a work in progress. For the first time, we saw the completed mosaics of the two lower domes and the magnificently beautiful Vietnamese Chapel.

A national shrine in honor of Mary was the dream of the American Bishops ever since the Immaculate Conception of Mary was declared a dogma of the Church and Mary, under this title, was proclaimed our National Patroness. Plans were conceived in the first years of the last century and the lower church (or crypt) was completed in 1924. The Depression and World War II delayed the completion of the upper church until 1950, when collections were taken throughout the nation. People responded generously, and the Solemn Dedication of the Shrine was held in 1959 in the presence of all the bishops of the country and the Papal Delegate. Lay representatives of every

diocese were present along with an honor guard of 2000 Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus in full regalia. What a great day for our country! A day to truly honor the Mother of us all. A day of proclaiming to the world our love for the Blessed Mother and our reliance on her intercession with her Divine Son.

In the almost 50 years since this solemn dedication, work has continued on the shrine, with new chapels, mosaics, organs, etc. All this work is being done according to the original plans of the architects and each addition brings out more clearly the shrine's beauty. As each chapel has been completed there is a public dedication, such as the dedication of the chapel of Our Lady of Africa, for which Monsignor Hadden, Father Saxon and I were present.

The scriptural role of Mary was to present Jesus, our Savior, to the world, and now Mary presents us to her Divine Son. We see this clearly in the architecture of the shrine; everything there points to the high altar over which is the great Mosaic of Jesus, Master of the Universe. This beautiful Church was built to honor Mary so that we can come to know Jesus better.

This, too, is the purpose of the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. There we will meet in prayer with our shepherd, The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, and the faithful from all parts of the diocese, along with our priests and religious and deacons. We come to pray for our Diocese of Raleigh and all of our people, to pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life and to pray for the personal needs of all of us. It will be our special honor to pray for the success of the visit to the same Church just a few days later of Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI. – Msgr. Gerald R. Lewis

## OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

▶▶ Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following priest assignments:

Effective Jan. 11, 2008

- **Reverend Rafael A. Leon Valencia**, Parochial Vicar at Saint Michael the Archangel Parish, Cary, is appointed Pastor of Saint Joseph Parish, Burgaw and Transfiguration Mission in Wallace.
- **Reverend Monsignor Desmond R. Keenan**, Administrator of St. Joseph Parish, Burgaw, and Transfiguration Mission in Wallace, is appointed to Hispanic Ministry at Saint Michael the Archangel Parish in Cary

until a new Parochial Vicar is appointed. Reverend Paul Brant, SJ, will also assist in this interim period.

▶▶ Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, welcomes the following priests to the Diocese of Raleigh:

- **Reverend Leo C. Holleran, M.S.**, a priest of the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette, Province of Mary, Mother of the Americas, assisting in priestly ministry at Saint Mildred Parish in Swansboro.
- **Reverend Arthur Kirwin, O.P.**, a priest of the Order of Preachers, Province of Saint Martin de Porres, residing at De Porres House Friary, Raleigh.

• **Reverend Bruce B. Schultz, O.P.**, a priest of the Order of Preachers, Province of Saint Martin de Porres, newly elected Prior of Saint Martin De Porres Friary in Raleigh.

▶▶ Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, welcomes the following retired priests to the Diocese of Raleigh:

- **Reverend Thomas Richard Doheny**, a retired priest of the Diocese of Madison.
- **Reverend John J. Dorgan**, a retired priest of the Diocese of Richmond.
- **Reverend Monsignor Frank J. Hendrick**, a retired priest of the Diocese of Arlington.
- **Reverend Monsignor Patrick A. McCabe**, a retired priest of the Diocese of Camden.





### Marie Biggs, 1908-2007

►► Mary "Marie" Biggs, a longtime member of Cathedral and Our Lady of Lourdes parishes in Raleigh, and a woman who met every head of the Catholic Church in North Carolina in the last century, passed away on Dec. 3 at the age of 99.

Raised in rural Wake County (now Garner), Marie remembered her family coming to Mass at the Cathedral once a month by horse and buggy. When she reached school age, she became a boarding student at Cathedral School. She was confirmed by Leo Haid, O.S.B., Abbot of Belmont and Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina.

During the 2nd World War, she was a leader in the USO at Cathedral. (The USO arranged and sponsored social events for soldiers.) She married Charles S. Biggs, and cared for her parents in her home for the rest of their lives, nearly 20 years. Tragically, very soon after the death of Marie's mother, Charles was killed in an auto accident.

Marie worked for a time at various jobs, including hostess at the Sir Walter Raleigh, then Raleigh's premiere hotel. Eventually, though, she became the main receptionist at the State Legislature, where her lively intelligence and outgoing way made her a widely known personality in Raleigh and throughout the state.

When Our Lady of Lourdes Parish was established in the 1950s, Marie was a founding member, and remained active in parish affairs for as long as she was physically able. In her later years she settled at Mayview Convalescent Center, where she received a continuous stream of visitors. In 2002, Marie received the Benemerenti Medal, conferred by the Holy Father on those who have exhibited long and exceptional service to the Catholic Church, their families and community. In 2006, she was interviewed on videotape as part of an ongoing oral history project for the Diocese.

### Forma extraordinaria available at five Diocesan parishes

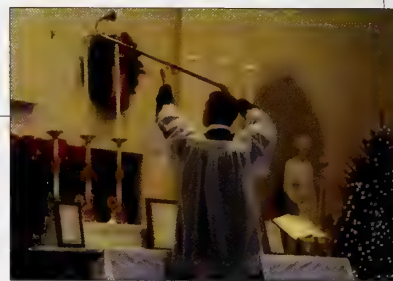
►► Four churches in the Diocese of Raleigh have scheduled regular celebrations of the Forma extraordinaria – the Mass according to the Tridentine Rite – in addition to the weekly celebration that has been taking place at Sacred Heart Church in Dunn.

At Sacred Heart Cathedral in Raleigh the Forma extraordinaria of the Mass will be celebrated on the first Sunday of each month at 4:30 p.m., beginning on January 6, 2008 on the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Father Paul Parkerson, pastor of Sacred Heart in Dunn, will be the celebrant for this Mass in the presence of the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge.

St. Therese Church in Wrightsville Beach will celebrate the Forma extraordinaria on the last Sunday of each month at 3:30 p.m. beginning on December 30.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Rocky Mount will celebrate the Forma extraordinaria on the second Sunday of each month at 4:00 p.m. beginning December 9.

The Mass at Sacred Heart Church



in Dunn, which had been celebrated each week at 4:00 p.m., is now celebrated at 12:00 p.m.

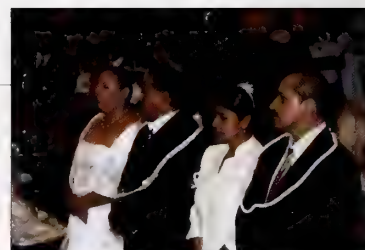
St. Bernadette Church in Fuquay-Varina will offer the Forma Extraordinaria on Tuesday mornings at 9 am.

In his letter announcing the implementation of the Apostolic Letter Summorum Pontificum on September 7, 2007, Bishop Burbidge said it was his intention "to make the Forma extraordinaria more available to the faithful." He noted that resources would be made available "to those priests who are able and choose to study how to properly celebrate the Forma extraordinaria of the Mass so that he and the people of God will be best served." As priests receive the necessary formation to celebrate the Mass, it will be made available at more parishes in the Diocese, where possible.

### 20 Couples Wed on Guadalupe Feast

►► On the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Bernadette Church in Fuquay-Varina was a wedding site for 40 men and women who had longed, some for decades, for a Catholic wedding. The Mexican couples, some of whom had been married civilly for years, were wed at a Spanish Mass celebrated by St. Bernadette's Parochial Vicar, Father Marco Antonio Gonzalez, the first native Mexican priest in the diocese of Raleigh, and their unions were blessed by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge.

In September, Father Gonzalez had offered to meet with all those men and women who wanted to be married in the Church on the Feast. The 20 couples who were wed had completed six three-hour classes on the meaning and requirements of the Sacrament of Matrimony. "They are offering their marriages to Our Lady of Guadalupe," said Father Gonzalez, who hopes to make this wedding celebration an annual event.



### Churches Pray for Christian Unity

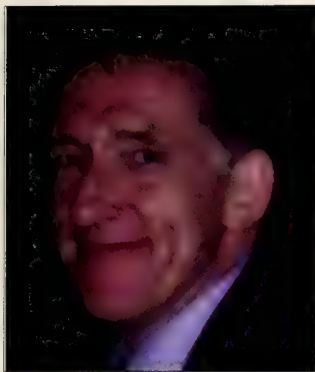
►► On Jan. 18, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge inaugurated the 100th anniversary of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with Vespers at Sacred Heart Cathedral. He was joined by the heads of other Christian churches throughout Eastern North Carolina.

The Church Unity Octave, a forerunner of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, was developed by Father Paul Wattson, SA, at Graymoor in Garrison, N.Y., and was first observed at Graymoor

from Jan. 18-25, 1908. Today, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity invites the whole Christian community throughout the world to pray in communion with the prayer of Jesus "that they all may be one" (John 17:21).

In 1966, the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches and the Vatican Secretariat (now Council) for Promoting Christian Unity began collaborating as a common international text for worldwide usage. Since 1968 these international texts, which are based on themes proposed by ecumenical groups around the world, have been developed, adapted and published for use in the United States by the Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute.





## Duke Appoints First Professor of Catholic Theology

▶▶ An internationally known scholar has been appointed Duke Divinity School's first William K. Warren Foundation Professor of Catholic Theology. Paul Griffiths, Schmitt Chair of Catholic Studies at the University of Illinois in Chicago, will assume the Duke position in January.

In making the announcement, Dean L. Gregory Jones called Griffiths an "outstanding scholar and teacher." Jones said the new position will provide the university with an "opportunity to strengthen our ties with the Catholic community at Duke and in the Triangle area."

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge extended his congratulations to Griffiths on his selection to the new position. "Professor Griffiths' academic experience, scholarly writings and the high respect in which he is held by the theological community make him an excellent choice for this newly endowed Chair at Duke Divinity School," Bishop Burbidge said. "I look forward to working closely with him and will seek his collaboration in the important and essential work of bringing increased understanding and recognition of our Catholic faith to the campus at Duke University, to the Diocese of Raleigh and our entire region."

Griffiths is sole author of eight books, including his most recent *The Vice of Curiosity: an Essay on Intellectual Appetite* (CMU Press, 2006). He has also co-authored and edited seven more, including *Reason and the Reasons of Faith* (T. & T. Clark, 2005), which he worked on with Duke Divinity School's Reinhard Hutter.

Griffiths, who was born in England, said one reason for seeking the Duke position was the opportunity to work in the South, noting that all of his life in America has been in Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana.

"My increasing sense is that the interesting future of Catholicism is actually going to be in the South and Southwest, not so much in the Midwest," Griffiths said. "In the South, new things are happening. Historically Protestant country is becoming less so with increasing Catholic growth and I'm interested in figuring that out." Griffiths, who was raised in the Anglican faith, was received into the Catholic Church in 1996.

Father Joe Vetter, Campus Minister of the Duke Newman Center, explained that while the Duke Divinity School is a Protestant school of theology with a Methodist foundation, many of its theological courses include content that is provided at Catholic universities.

"The Warren Chair," Father Vetter said, "was established to provide a specific Catholic component for those preparing for ministry in the Catholic Church and for those who desire to know more about Catholic belief and practice."

"It is my hope that collaboration among the Diocese, the Newman Center and the Divinity Schools will help us to better identify ways the university and the local Catholic community can work together to promote Catholic thought and understanding and to prepare and support those who work in ministry," Father Vetter added.

## Begin the new year with new friends in North Carolina's newest retirement community!

Pennybyrn at Maryfield is now open, and so are the doors to an innovative approach to healthy retirement living—one that promises new friends and new opportunities for personal fulfillment. Casual. Inspiring. Beautiful! This could be the new beginning you've been waiting for.

Visit us today, or call (336) 821-4050 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



**PENNYBYRN**  
at MARYFIELD  
A Retirement Living Community



Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God  
[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com) • 109 Penny Road, High Point, NC 27260



MAG/NCC/1-08



## things to do:

The New Year is a perfect time to grow closer as a couple in prayer, renewal and spiritual study! Attend the Couple to Couple League's three classes on **Natural Family Planning** beginning on Sunday, Jan. 27 from 2-5 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Raleigh. The Sympto-Thermal method is medically safe, morally acceptable and highly effective (not to be confused with calendar rhythm). For info & registration call the Thelens at 919.786.1205 (jthelen@nc.rr.com) or the Seditos at 919.469.4226 (sedito@bellsouth.net). More info at [www.ccli.org](http://www.ccli.org).

**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour, Feb. 1, 7-9 pm**, at St. Mary Church in Wilmington. The VHH is an opportunity for all the people of the Diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. The VHH's are open to everyone, but they are certainly unique opportunities for men and women discerning a church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment. Next month's VHH will be held on March 7 in the New Bern Deanery.

**Ash Wednesday - Feb. 6, 2008, A Day To Remember.** "Remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return" is not the same as saying "We all got to go someday." The "You" who dies is always one single solitary individual. Not hiding from ourselves and our unique irreplaceable history and our inevitable death, ought to be reflected on and prayed about at the start of Lent. Rev. John Gillespie will begin this day of reflection at 10 a.m. and conclude with distribution of ashes at 3 p.m. Fee: \$25 (includes lunch). The Christian Family Living Center is located on Topsail Island, N.C. Please call 910.328.1584 for reservations.

**Challenge Retreat, Feb. 8-9**, location TBA. Challenge is a Friday-Saturday overnight retreat for grades 6-8. The retreat focuses on community building, self-esteem, social justice, scripture, and relationships with friends, family, and Jesus. We will be offering this retreat at multiple sites on two different weekends this year. For more information contact Mike Hagarty at 919.821.9770 or [Hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:Hagarty@raldioc.org).

**Current Issues in Bio-Medical Ethics**, a three-week online seminar from Catholic Distance University. Instructor: Mr. William Saunders, Senior Fellow and Director of the Family Research Council's Center for Human Life and Bioethics. Cost \$135. Feb. 11-March 2, 2008. Register at [www.CDU.edu](http://www.CDU.edu) or by phone at 888.254.4238.

The sixth annual **Ignited by**

## Jan/Feb. Readings

**Sunday, Jan. 6**  
*Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord*  
Is 60:1-6  
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6  
Mt 2:1-12

**Sunday, Jan. 13**  
*Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*  
Is 42:1-4, 6-7  
Acts 10:34-38  
Mt 3:13-17

**Sunday, Jan. 12**  
*Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Is 49:3, 5-6  
1 Cor 1:1-3  
Jn 1:29-34

**Sunday, Jan. 27**  
*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Is 8:23-9:3  
1 Cor 1:10-13, 17  
Mt 4:12-23

**Sunday, Feb. 3**  
*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Zep 2:3; 3:12-13  
1 Cor 1:26-31  
Mt 5:1-12a

**Wednesday, Feb. 6**  
*Ash Wednesday*  
Jl 2:12-18  
2 Cor 5:20-6:2  
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

**Sunday, Feb. 10**  
*First Sunday of Lent*  
Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7  
Rom 5:12-19  
Mt 4:1-11

**Sunday, Feb. 10**  
*First Sunday of Lent*  
Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7  
Rom 5:12-19  
Mt 4:1-11

**Sunday, Feb. 17**  
*Second Sunday of Lent*  
Gn 12:1-4A  
2 Tm 1:8b-10  
Mt 17:1-9

**Sunday, Feb. 24**  
*Third Sunday of Lent*  
Ex 17:3-7  
Rom 5:1-2, 5-8  
Jn 5:5-42

**Truth Conference** will be held Feb. 15-16 at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh. Guest speaker, Marcus Grodi. Begins Friday evening and runs all day Saturday. For more information, contact Ursula Ruiz at 919.878.5181 or [ursula@ignitedbytruth.com](mailto:ursula@ignitedbytruth.com).

**Ignited By Truth Workshop:** Marcus Grodi will present a free Friday night workshop "Discovering the Catholic Church" on Feb. 15, at Our Lady Of Lourdes Church in Raleigh. We will begin at 6:15 p.m. with the Stations of the Cross led by Bishop Michael Burbidge. At 7 p.m., Marcus Grodi will give two talks entitled "What is Truth?" (the story of his conversion into the Catholic Church) and "The Verses I Never Saw."

Marcus Grodi serves as

the President / Executive Director of *The Coming Home Network International*, a non-profit Catholic lay apostolate aimed at helping our separated brethren, both clergy and laity, come home to the Catholic Church. His talks have helped thousands of Catholics find their way back home.

**African Ancestry Black History Month Celebration**, 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23 at St. Joseph Church, Raleigh. This celebration will reflect on the contribution of African Americans made to our country. We will also look at African Saints and their contributions to the Catholic Church. For more information on the event, contact Martha Carter-Bailey at 919.821.9762 or [martha.bailey@raldioc.org](mailto:martha.bailey@raldioc.org).

**Search #150**, 7 p.m. Friday,



## Upcoming events at Avila Retreat Center

To register or for more information, call 919.477.1285 or visit: [www.avilaretreat-center.com](http://www.avilaretreat-center.com)

► **Creating Prayer Shawls From the Spirit**, 7 p.m. Friday, February 8-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9. Praying involves mind and heart, body and soul. So does knitting. Knitting by

its very nature slows us down. We are drawn into a trance-like state and closer to the Spirit. We forget the "list of tasks" and become receptive to just being. In the mystery of being held in this contemplative state we create and allow the Spirit to redirect our thoughts and our being. Presenter Rev. Cindy Sloan is an ordained United Methodist pastor, retreat leader and spiritual director for women in recovery from life hurts. Donation: \$65.

► **Lenten Spirituality Day**, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. March 5. Come to pray and reflect with Bishop Michael Burbidge on the place conversion and spiritual renewal have in our hearts and lives during the Season of Lent. Donation \$30.



## your church at your fingertips

- breaking, detailed diocesan news
- complete events calendar
- podcasting ➤ parish links
- Bishop's weekly gospel reflections - video and print versions



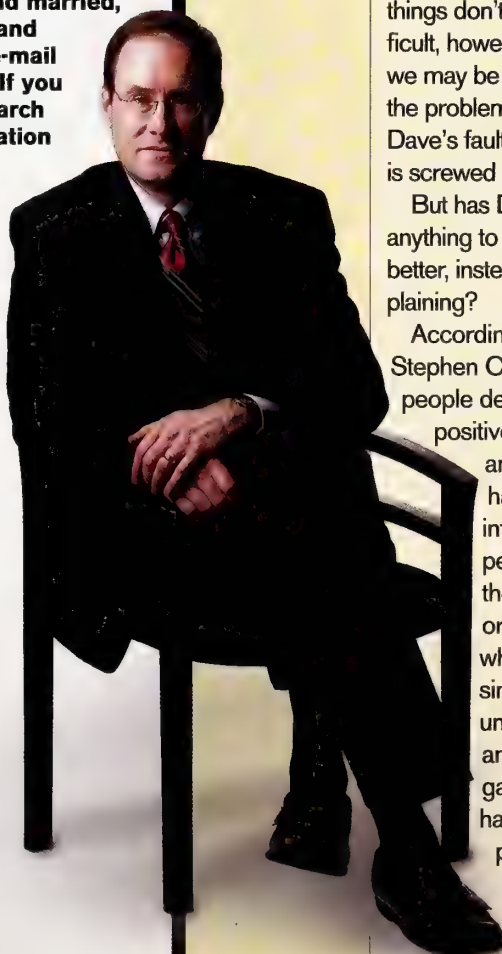
[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

March 7-2 p.m. Sunday, March 9, at Short Journey Center, Smithfield. Search is a weekend retreat for 11th-12th-grade youth. Activities encourage self-discovery and reflection on relationships with others and with God. This is a peer-led retreat as the Search "team" is made up of other teens. These past Searchers model leadership, faith sharing and ministry with their peers. Adults in youth ministry also attend and participate in Search. Searches usually fill up quickly, so sign up for the earliest date possible to ensure yourself a space.

►► We are currently planning a reunion Mass and reception as part of this weekend and would love to have as many past Searchers attend as possible. If you are interested, please send an e-mail to [SEARCH-REGISTRARS@NC.RR.COM](mailto:SEARCH-REGISTRARS@NC.RR.COM) and include your name (if female and married, please include your maiden name) and the Search you attended. A return e-mail will be sent with additional details. If you know anyone else who is a past Search participant, please pass this information on. For more information, contact Mike Hagarty at 919.821.9770 or [Hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:Hagarty@raldioc.org).

The annual **dinner-dance-auction** "All That Glitters," benefiting the Senior Pharmacy Program of Catholic Charities, will be held 6:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at St. Paul's Family Life Center in New Bern. Tickets are \$30 per person and the food will be catered by The Chelsea restaurant. Music provided by Bruce Horton. For ticket information, please call the Catholic Charities office at 252.638.2188.

Join **One Bread Lay Apostolate** in celebrating our Catholic faith during the Raleigh **St. Patrick's Day Parade** on Saturday, March 15, in downtown Raleigh. Help distribute over 2,000 St. Patrick prayer cards to parade spectators with an invitation to attend a Catholic Mass. For more information call Karen Matthews at 919.708.6907, e-mail: [1bread@excite.com](mailto:1bread@excite.com) or visit: <http://1bread.catholic.org/news.html>



## Playing the blame game

Are you the one who's always right?



Dave is the guy in the shop who never does anything wrong... at least that's what he thinks.

**Q:** *That press over there broke down this morning and is holding up production.* They're trying to blame me because I didn't perform the regular maintenance last week. It's not my fault — they changed the maintenance process and schedule and didn't let anyone know. They said they posted it, but I didn't see it. This place is screwed up, and nobody knows what they're doing. "They" don't tell us anything. — Dave

**A:** We've all heard it before and, to some extent, we're all guilty of it. Because we're human, our egos sometimes take control. After all, no one works in a perfect environment. But playing the blame game just makes matters worse. It's easy to place blame when things don't go right. It's difficult, however, to admit how we may be contributing to the problem. Maybe it wasn't Dave's fault and the process is screwed up.

But has Dave ever done anything to try to make things better, instead of just complaining?

According to noted author Stephen Covey, proactive people decide to respond positively to a situation and thus tend to have a positive influence on the people around them and on the organization as a whole. It's easy to simply react to an undesirable situation and play the blame game. On the other hand, it takes a proactive person to honestly look

at himself/herself and assess how to improve the situation.

Is this not what Christ speaks of in Matthew's Gospel regarding the judgment of others? Christ asks us how we can criticize others (point out the splinter in their eyes) while not paying attention to our own faults or contribution to a problem (the beam in our own eye). (Mt 7:3-5) We must first examine ourselves and eliminate our contribution to the problem before we can expect anyone else to change their ways.

Probably one of the most painful exercises we can undertake is to be honest with ourselves regarding our contribution to or apathy toward problems in the workplace. But we can take the following steps toward correcting our weakness:

- Recognize our negative tendency toward blame or criticism.
- Step back and honestly examine the circumstances.
- Take action if there is something proactive we can do to improve the situation rather than contributing to the problem and propagating a negative attitude.

— Tim Ryan





# Looking for a home

Triangle Korean Catholic Community, New Hill

**I**n the garage next to the New Hill rectory of Father Choong Seob Kim, chaplain to the Triangle Korean Catholic Community (TKCC), stands a large wooden crate. It contains a statue of Mary, which awaits a place of honor in the new church this community is hoping to build.

The TKCC, according to Chueng Ji, chair of the community's Pastoral Council, began almost 20 years ago. "Our history," he says with a smile, "might be described as 'making something out of nothing,' maybe even a miracle!"

In the 1980's, the late Father Joe McNamara was ministering to students at North Carolina State University. Under the guidance of Father Joe, with assistance from Sister Mary Lynch, several Korean graduate students, as well as post-doctoral and other Korean visitors, regularly participated in the Sunday Masses at Aquinas House, now relocated as the Doggett Center.

The first change to this small community came on a cold winter night in 1988, when the group celebrated Mass in the basement of Sacred Heart Cathedral. At that time Father Paul Han, an American priest who spoke fluent Korean, was a frequent visitor, and intended



to minister to the Korean community in the Triangle area as well as a second community in Fayetteville. Father Han was called away, but the idea of forming a larger group beyond the NCSU campus ministry was planted. Soon the Koreans, wel-

comed by Father John Wall, were meeting at the old St. Michael Church in Cary, and today the Korean

Mass on Saturday evenings at the current St. Michael draws up to 150 families. The community is a fixture at St. Michael's annual International Festival.

In the early 1990s, Korean priests from Charlotte visited the community on a regular basis. Then, in 1994, a Korean priest on sabbatical, Father Sang-Jin Kim, ministered to both the Raleigh and Fayetteville communities for a year and a half. In 1997, the Diocese of Raleigh Diocese invited a priest from Korea

to minister in both Raleigh and Fayetteville for a longer period. Father Sung-Nam Kim stayed for four and half years, during which time the current rectory in New Hill was purchased and blessed. By 2003, the growth of both communities required that each have its own chaplain. The TKCC now celebrates Mass in the rectory chapel on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

Father Kim, from Seoul, is grateful for his welcome in the Diocese of Raleigh. He hopes that visiting Koreans, who often attend Mass with the community, will take positive impressions with them when they return home, so that the TKCC "can be a kind of bridge between our countries."

Chueng Ji, alluding to Bishop Burbidge's recent visit to the community and his promised return for Confirmation in the spring, says, "We appreciate his support so much. His motto is 'Walk humbly with God,' and that is something we relate to, and we want to walk with him in that spirit. We want to grow and mature and be more open to other communities."

The TKCC now has a chaplain and a sizeable congregation. The next step will be finding its own home – building a church. That is the dearest wish of Father Kim, who looks forward to the day when the community can have a Sunday school for its children. The Diocese has given the community permission to purchase land for building, and agreed to lend 50 percent of the projected construction cost. Plans are moving forward.

the Diocese of  
*Raleigh*

## resource

**Triangle  
Korean Catholic  
Community**

2340  
New Hill Olive  
Chapel Road,  
New Hill, NC.

► Call the  
parish office for  
Mass times:  
**919.560.5112**





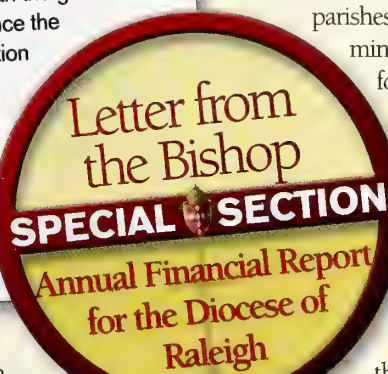
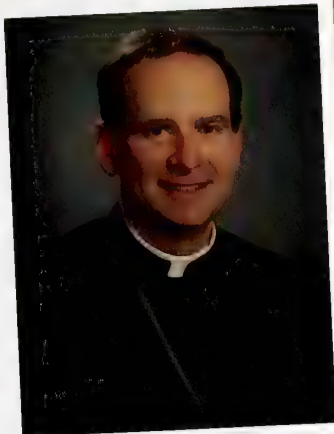
January 2008

## Dear Parishioners of the Diocese of Raleigh:

As we reflect upon this past year, we realize the Diocese of Raleigh continues to experience abundant blessings. We are most thankful for our priests and their faithful ministries as well as the dedicated service of our deacons, consecrated religious, pastoral administrators, and laity. We are grateful for our new seminarians and all those pursuing the call to Priesthood. We are blessed by the examples of faithful married love and strong family life. We are most thankful that we live in a wonderful Diocese which is vibrant in faith and enriched by many different cultures.

Through the sharing of time, talent, and treasure by our parishioners, the Diocese of Raleigh has been blessed with the gifts of resources to be used wisely and prudently to advance the mission of the Church. I convey my deep appreciation for these gifts so generously shared.

As your Bishop, I am entrusted with ensuring the proper stewardship of all of our resources, including our financial resources. As part of that stewardship, I present this letter regarding the finances of the Diocese of Raleigh for the year ended June 30, 2007.



## Financial Audit

The independent accounting firm of Williams, Overman, Pierce and Company LLP audits the finances of the Diocese of Raleigh annually. Those financial statements can be found on the diocesan website at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/who/diocese/audit/](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/who/diocese/audit/) so that all parishioners can have access to them. Those without access to a computer who would like a hard copy of the financial statements, or those who have questions on the audited financial statements, can contact Mr. Russell C. Elmayan, Diocesan Chief Financial Officer, at 919-821-9704 or at [russ.elmayan@raldioc.org](mailto:russ.elmayan@raldioc.org). As in past years, the audit report is accompa-

nied by an unqualified opinion. This indicates that the auditors believe that the financial statements fairly and accurately present the financial picture at the Diocese. It is our policy to operate within our means and to operate with a balanced budget.

The Diocese of Raleigh remains financially stable. Our balance sheet and income statement remain solid and show the prudence of our financial administration. Our endowment funds have increased, in large part because of favorable investment performance. Our parishes continue to pay off loans for construction of facilities ahead of schedule, indicating the financial health of

## The Diocese of Raleigh remains financially stable. Our balance sheet and income statement remain solid and show the prudence of our financial administration.

most of our parishes. As we live within our means, our budget continues to grow because of the generosity of our parishioners and because of the leadership of our pastors and pastoral administrators. This means that we have an increasing ability to address the growing needs in the Diocese, although our spiritual and pastoral needs are growing at a rate even faster than our income.

Virtually all of our Diocesan expenditures are in support of parishes or parish

ministry in some form or fashion – from the expenditures for seminarian education and pastoral ministry, to the support from the Diocese

of Raleigh for our local Catholic Charities, to the grants given to parishes and charitable institutions, to the parish loan and insurance fund. All of our resources come, in some manner, from parishioners, either from God's Work – Our Challenge pledge payments, Bishop's Annual Appeal gifts, parish assessments, or wills, bequests or other planned gifts. Therefore, as stewards of those resources, we are accountable to you, our parishioners.

The financial statements this year include an adjustment for the remaining balance of pledges for the God's Work – Our Challenge capital campaign, since it has been

determined that some of those pledges will not be fulfilled. To date over \$40 million has been paid by parishioners across the Diocese on pledges to God's Work – Our Challenge, with over \$14 million rebated back to parishes for their own local needs and the remaining \$26 million being used for diocesan needs (mostly endowments) and the campaign expenses. Pledge payments continue on the remaining active pledge balances, and those payments continue to fund endowments and parish needs.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal continues to be the largest single source of income for diocesan ministries. Year in and year out approximately 94% of what is pledged is fulfilled.

We have challenges to meet in the coming years. Those challenges include 1) helping to fund the construction of mission churches where the parishioners are unable at the present time to pay for the construction of facilities, 2) adequately funding the costs of pensions and post-retirement medical costs for priests, 3) providing a just pension benefit to lay employees without negatively impacting finances at parishes and tuition at Catholic Schools, and 4) funding the educational costs of a projected increase in the number of those preparing for Priesthood and the Permanent Diaconate. All of these challenges will be addressed in a planned and prudent manner with the consultation of the Priest's Council and the Diocesan Finance Council.



## Program for the Protection of Children and Young People

The Diocese of Raleigh has maintained a strong and consistent effort to honor the commitment made by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. Our Diocese provides training for volunteers, educational resources for parents, and background checks for clergy, employees, and volunteers in leadership roles. The Diocese has been judged to be in full compliance with the Compliance Audit for the Protection of Children and Young People once again this year, as it has for every year that the audit has been done. The Diocese is committed to protecting and safeguarding our children and youth, and we need the active participation of all our people to identify and report even suspected incidents of abuse in the past, the present or the future.

Information on settlements made during 2006-07 for claims of sexual misconduct against a minor can be found in the notes to the audited financial statements on the diocesan website. The settlements are for claims made from reported allegations from the 1950's. The funds used to pay for settlements

have ultimately come from either unrestricted reserves or the diocesan self insurance fund, paid into by parishes, which covers these and many other liability and casualty claims. No funds have been sent to any other dioceses in other states to help them pay for claims of sexual misconduct against a minor.

## Diocesan Growth and Initiatives

►► In addition to our financial prudence, there are many signs that our Diocese is healthy and vibrant:

- The registered Catholic population of the Diocese stands at 210,310, which is 58% higher than just ten years ago. The total population of eastern North Carolina has grown by 20% during that same time period. The Catholic population is growing at a rate three times faster than the overall population, and that does not include the large number of Spanish-speaking Catholics who by custom often do not register at parishes.
- Catholics now comprise 4.9% of the population in an area where the Catholic population was below 1% of the population less than two generations ago.
- In the last year in our Diocese, there were over 6,100 baptisms (vs. 3,457 in 1997), 4,569 first communions (vs. 2,890 in 1997), and over 2,360 confirmations (vs. 1,347 in 1997).
- Our Catholic Schools are currently educating over 8,900 students, and over 40,100 children and adults are actively involved in faith formation programs in parishes across the Diocese.
- Responding to our call as disciples of Jesus to serve all, especially the least among us, in the past year Catholic Charities had over 36,000 occasions to serve people, regardless of religious affiliation or station in life.
- The Diocese of Raleigh Home Mission Society has been formed to begin to provide funding for the construction of mission churches and chapels in parts of the Diocese where the Catholic population is growing but where the parishioners are not financially able at this time to pay for the buildings needed to accommodate the growing population.
- The Diocesan Deposit and Loan program has 111 outstanding loans totaling over \$55 million to parishes throughout the Diocese in support of construction of new schools, churches, and education buildings. Parishes in the Diocese of Raleigh have over \$38 million on deposit in 396 savings accounts with the Diocese. The Diocese has borrowed over

\$40 million from banks to provide financing for existing parish loans and for loans to be made in the near future.

- Even after a decade of unprecedented expansion of facilities to serve the people of God, there are eleven parishes in the planning process for construction of new facilities to meet the needs of our expanding Catholic population.

**In addition to our financial prudence, there are many signs that our Diocese is healthy and vibrant**

- As of November 2007, over 8,600 clergy, employees, and leadership volunteers have been trained in recognizing and reporting child abuse and neglect.
- The Diocese of Raleigh, along with the Diocese of Charlotte, has engaged the North Carolina Legislature on initiatives related to Catholic teaching which impact public policy on matters such as abortion, embryonic stem cell research, the death penalty, and comprehensive immigration reform.

God continues to richly bless the Diocese of Raleigh, and we are privileged to be His instruments.

## In appreciation

I thank the dedicated members of our Diocesan Finance Council for their steadfast service and excellent advice. Our fourteen member Council meets monthly and comes from parishes across the Diocese. It is composed of three priests and eleven lay professionals who graciously give their time and expertise in service of the Church.

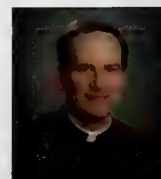
I am grateful to God for calling me to be your Bishop, and I

thank the many parishioners who have been so supportive of me since I was installed in August 2006. Please be assured of my prayerful support for all of you and for the Diocese of Raleigh.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Michael F. Burbidge*

**Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge**  
Bishop of Raleigh





*"When I'm gone, who will  
receive the gifts God gave me?"*

*A will is your answer to the question.*

60-70% of Americans die without a valid will. If you die without a will, the laws of the state you live in will determine how your assets are divided, including assets to your family. Without a will or other charitable estate plan, charitable desires you may have for your parish, Catholic school, campus ministry or the diocese will be ignored.

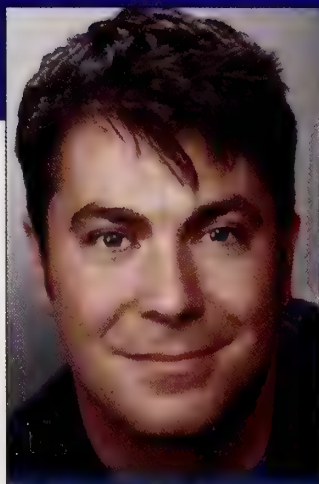
*Don't let your answer be silence.*



The Roman Catholic  
Diocese of Raleigh



To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact Debbie Rossi, Director of Stewardship & Development, 919-821-9721; 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606; [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org) or visit our web site for more information, [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)



## ICSC Regional Stewardship Day Conference

Join the Diocese of Raleigh, Archdiocese of Atlanta,  
Diocese of Charlotte, Diocese of Savannah, and Diocese of Charleston

Featuring our Keynote Speaker  
**Matthew Kelly**

Dynamic and extraordinarily engaging, Matthew Kelly, comes to the aid of individuals searching for some meaning in life deeper than the pursuit of material things. Author of 10 books including "The Rhythm of Life: Living Every Day With Passion and Purpose" and "Rediscovering Catholicism."

**Mark Your Calendar!**  
**Saturday, April 19, 2008**

**9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. • Embassy Suites, Concord, NC**





# HEROES OF SACRIFICE SEMINARIANS



**DEACON**  
**ROMEN ACERO**

ST MARY SEMINARY  
4th YEAR THEOLOGY



**DEACON**  
**MICHAEL SPURR**

THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE  
4th YEAR THEOLOGY

Pray for our seminarians by name, especially  
**Deacon Acero** and **Deacon Spurr** as they  
prepare for ordination to the Priesthood on  
June 7th, 2008

**Need help discerning a vocation to the  
Priesthood or Religious Life?**

Contact Father Ned Shlesinger  
919.832.6280 / shlesinger@raldioc.org

**Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh**  
[www.dioceseofraleigh.org/vocations](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/vocations)



January/February 2008



**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



please recycle



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514  
95219 P 13 1161  
UNC CHAPEL HILL SERIALS DEPARTMENT 33  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

March 2008

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

from the bishop

**We celebrate  
the Lord's victory**

voices in our church

- ▶ Classmates of Distinction
- ▶ La Pascua, el Espíritu  
Vivo de Cristo

parish profile

Missionary Wellspring  
Sacred Heart, Whiteville

since you asked ...

A friend says Easter is  
the most important day  
of the year for Catholics.  
I thought it was Christmas.  
**Please explain.**

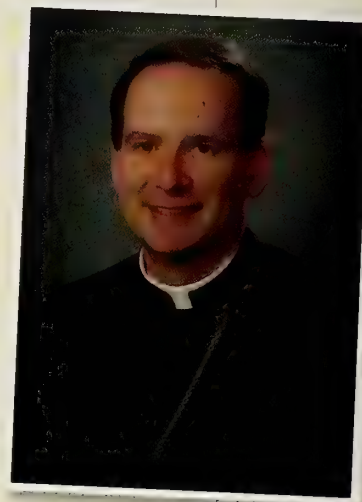


# THE EUCCHARIST

What draws people to the Catholic Church?  
Converts tell their stories



**I**n a special way throughout this Lenten season, we have united ourselves ever more closely to the sufferings of Christ. We can identify the crosses we carry: the burdens of temptation and sin, the physical and emotional anguish we and those we love experience, the concerns of the present and the anxieties associated with the future. Yet, as true followers of Christ, we never lose hope in the midst of our sufferings and crosses. We embrace the truths of Easter: Jesus Christ destroyed forever the powers of evil and darkness so that we may live in His Light and enjoy newness of life, both now and forever! He is the king of victory and His victory is our victory!



We recall the words of an ancient Easter hymn:

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!  
The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
Now is the Victor's triumph won.  
O let the song of praise be sung:  
Alleluia!*

Throughout the Lenten season and in the days and weeks of the Easter season ahead, we have and will continue to celebrate the Lord's victory. I am deeply inspired to know the countless numbers of the faithful who celebrated the Sacrament of Penance in preparation for Easter. What a powerful way to proclaim the Lord's victory over sin! It was edifying to witness the number of people who were anointed within the Diocesan Mass on the occasion of the 150th Anniversary of the apparitions of Our Blessed Mother at Lourdes. What a powerful way to celebrate the Lord's victory over suffering!

The number of the elect in our Diocese who were baptized, confirmed, and received First Eucharist at the Easter Vigil, as well as the baptized who were fully initiated into the Sacramental Life of the Church, was overwhelming. What a powerful witness of the new Life that is ours in Christ Jesus. I am so pleased to see the continued reverent devotion, celebration and reception of the Holy Eucharist throughout our Diocese. What a powerful sign of our belief that Christ Jesus alone can satisfy our hungry hearts.

We know many people in our world and even within our families and circle of friends who desperately need to rediscover the source of our joyful hope even in the midst of suffering. Thus, in word and deed, we must boldly proclaim that:

*The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
Now is the Victor's triumph won!*

It is my hope and prayer that Our Risen Lord will bless you with His peace and joy and give you the grace to be effective witnesses of the new Life that is ours through Him, with Him and in Him. Alleluia!

## We Celebrate the Lord's Victory

Throughout this Lenten season and in the days and weeks of the Easter season ahead, **we have and will continue to celebrate the Lord's victory.**

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh.





## cover story

### "The Eucharist"

►► What draws people to the Catholic Church?  
Converts tell their stories — Rich Reece

## el hispano Católico

### 16 el hispano católico

#### ►► "La Eucaristía"

¿Qué atrae a las personas a la Iglesia Católica? La historia de cuatro personas y su proceso de conversión

— Rich Reece

### 18 Querido lector de NCC

►► Un amigo dice que la Pascua es el día más importante del año para los católicos, pero pensé que el día más importante era Navidad, **por favor explique.**

— El Padre Jonathan A. Woodhall

### 19 Obispo Burbidge

#### ►► Celebramos el triunfo del Señor

— Obispo Michael E. Burbidge

# inside

what you'll get out of this issue

## from the Bishop

2 We celebrate the Lord's victory.

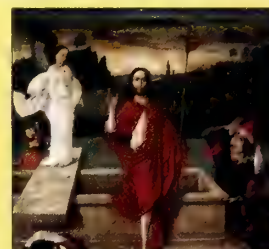
— Bishop Michael E. Burbidge

## since you asked ...

6 Dear NCC:

A friend says Easter is the most important day of the year for Catholics. I thought it was Christmas. Please explain.

— Father Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D.



## from the editor

7 In God's hands

— Rich Reece

## theology 101

8 Eucharist: 4 ways

Christ is present at Mass

## voices in our church

11 Classmates of Distinction

— Msgr. Thomas Hadden

11 La Pascua, el Espíritu Vivo de Cristo

— Padre Fernando Torres

## spiritual fitness

20 How to pray like a monk  
Trappist spirituality today

— Father Bill

Ashbaugh



## culture

26 Frame of faith — worth more than a thousand words.

— Michelle Sessions DiFranco

## work life

29 My wife is a stay-at-home mom  
I'm jealous — Tim Ryan

## parish profile

30 Missionary Wellspring  
Sacred Heart, Whiteville

— Rich Reece

# 12



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
**PUBLISHER**

Frank Morock  
**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**

March 2008 • Vol. 4 : Issue 2

Richard Reece  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Holly Stringer  
**ADVERTISING MANAGER**

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Amanda Cadran  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Father Fernando Torres  
Father Jonathan A. Woodhall  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Nathalie Fuerst  
**TRANSLATOR**

Denmark Photo & Video (cover)  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
**CHAIRMAN**

Patrick M. O'Brien  
**PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
**EDITORIAL DIRECTOR**

Vicki Bedard  
**DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING**

Jillane Job  
**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT**

Patricia Oliver  
**SECRETARY**

Patrick Dally  
**ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER**

Lynne Ridenour  
Abby Wieber  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNERS**

Betsy Miner  
**PROOFREADING**

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Michelle Sessions Difranco  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

InnerWorkings  
**PRINT MANAGEMENT**

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™. Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

**Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:**

**Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730**

LOCAL NEWS

## NC Faithful March for Life in Raleigh, Washington, DC

**A**pproximately 350 people attended the fifth annual Mass for Life Saturday, Jan. 12, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Raleigh. The Mass was celebrated by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge with Msgr. John Williams and Father David D. Brockman concelebrating.

Following the Mass, many of those in attendance took part in the Rally and March for Life in Raleigh, sponsored by North Carolina Right to Life, Inc. Catholics made up the largest part of the approximately 800 people who participated. Bishop Burbidge offered the invocation. Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Diocese of Charlotte, offered the Benediction.

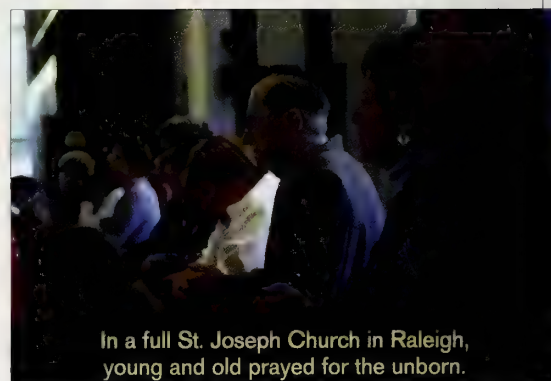
Ten days later, the two bishops came together with hundreds of faithful from their dioceses for the celebration of Mass at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The Mass at the Shrine is an annual event for North Carolina Catholics as a prelude to the national March for Life that takes place on that day in the nation's capital to mark the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion.

This day, tens of thousands of pro-life advocates braved dark clouds and cold temperatures in the 35th Annual March. Marchers from almost every

state participated in the afternoon event. Bishop Burbidge called the turnout from the Diocese of Raleigh "an inspiration," adding, "The march leads us to action, to witness peacefully and prayerfully."



A mother and her son listened as Bishop Burbidge preached.



In a full St. Joseph Church in Raleigh, young and old prayed for the unborn.

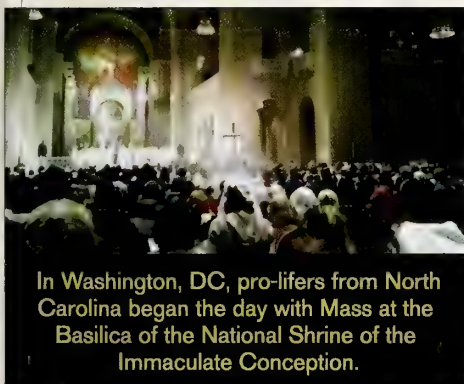


Bishop Burbidge offered the invocation at the rally in Nash Square, downtown Raleigh.



The route of the Raleigh pro-life march circled the state Capitol.





In Washington, DC, pro-lifers from North Carolina began the day with Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.



Father James F. Garneau, Pastor of St. Mary, Mt. Olive, talks with Father Philip M. Tighe, Pastor of St. Catherine of Siena, Wake Forest.



Marchers filled the streets of the nation's capital to demonstrate their respect for life and opposition to the 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling of the Supreme Court, which legalized abortion.



Bishop Burbidge joined youth in the streets of Washington as the march began.



Msgr. John Williams accompanied a delegation from his church, St. Joseph in Raleigh.

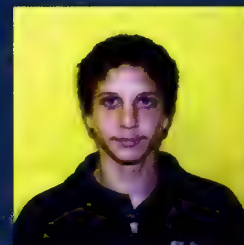
## The Reason for the Season

"Why did Jesus rise from the dead?"

►► This month, we asked 7th graders from **St. Patrick Education Center in Fayetteville**, "Why did Jesus rise from the dead?"



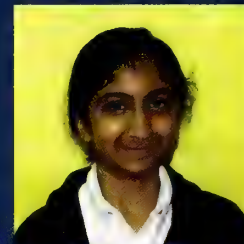
►► **Sean:** So He could continue preaching the Good Word and help his disciples follow His way in preaching.



►► **Giuseppe:** To save us from our sins, and to give us eternal life after we die.



►► **Jack:** Because He had unfinished work and there were more people for Him to help.



►► **Sita:** He rose from the dead to prove the Scriptures and that God had accepted the sacrifices He made for all of our sins.



►► **Gabbi:** Jesus rose to sit at the right hand of the Father and to show us that if He can overcome death and have eternal life then so can we through Him.



►► **Marianna:** He wanted us to know that He lives forever.



**Dear NCC:** A friend says Easter is the most important day of the year for Catholics. I thought it was Christmas. **Please explain.**

**S**t. Paul wrote: "... if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain."

(1Cor. 5:14) This earliest written expression of Catholic belief defines the cornerstone of our faith. Were it not for **1. the personal experience of Mary Magdalene**, early on the first day of the week, to use the gospel expression; **2. the experience**, later, of the first followers of Jesus and **3. Paul's personal experience of the Risen Lord on the road to Damascus** perhaps two decades after the first Easter, we would not be the Christians we are today.

Easter celebrates the victory of Jesus over death. Easter celebrates our belief that life does not end in death. Therefore, Easter is the most solemn and most important feast for Catholic Christians who profess the belief that our God is the God of life, not a god of death.

However, your question raises an important consideration. On the level of faith, Christianity is unique in believing that the Divine God entered into human life in the form of a human being. We call this event the Incarnation. We celebrate the birth of Jesus and call that feast the Nativity, or more popularly, Christmas in English ["Christ's Mass" from medieval English times].

It would be unproductive, in my opinion, to argue which feast is more important in Christian faith. Tradition that led to the written Scripture and then subsequent spiritual and theological thought consistently stresses the importance of the Resurrection in our salvation history.

But on a popular level, few would not argue that Christmas is more observed with festivities in certain cultures than Easter is. Certainly our American culture is one of those cultures. Therefore, the question of Christmas versus Easter is really a cultural question, not a theological question.

In fact, many other Catholic cultures outside our American Catholic culture celebrate the Incarnation with different emphases. In Mexico, the *Posadas*, the reenactments of Mary and Joseph, im-

# Dear NCC

This month with  
Father Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D.

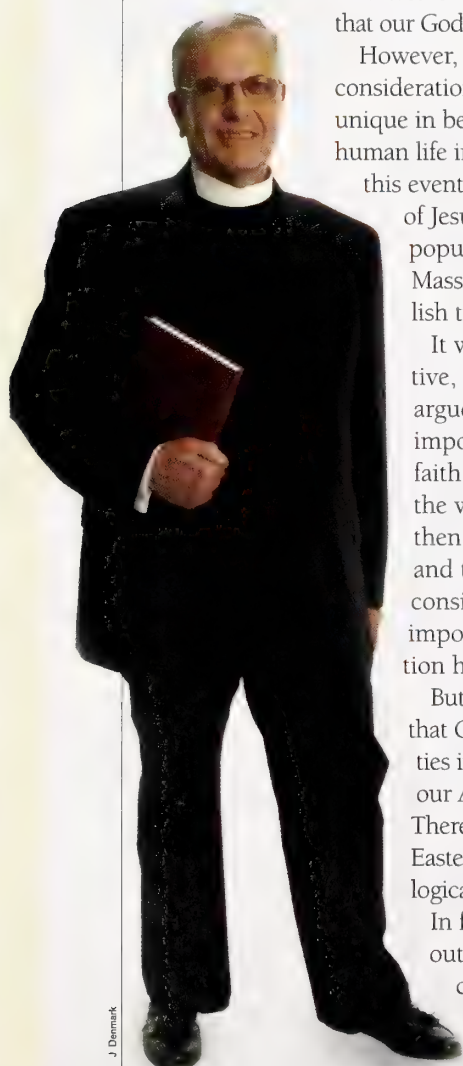


**Easter celebrates the victory of Jesus over death. Easter celebrates our belief that life does not end in death.** Therefore, Easter is the most solemn and most important feast for Catholic Christians who profess the belief that our God is a god of life, not a god of death.

migrants seeking shelter and safety in the days before the birth of Jesus, are more festive than Dec. 25.

"Three Kings Day" on Jan. 6 in most Catholic Latin American cultures is more celebratory than Dec. 25. In southern and eastern Catholic European cultures, Christ's manifestation to the gentiles, the Epiphany, is more celebrated than Dec. 25.

Clearly, we American Catholics must distinguish cultural issues from faith issues. It is very easy for a person to be swept away by the culture one lives in. If a person does not think about what he really believes and what is really important, then such a person's faith becomes superficial and that faith will not withstand the difficulties that life presents to every human being.





The person of faith does not allow secular culture to form his faith. The person of faith tries to form the culture around him according to the beliefs he lives by.

The Christian experiences what his Savior experienced, misunderstandings and betrayals even of those closest to him. The Christian experiences giving of self and every day the Christian experiences dying in so many ways. But the Christian also experiences little resurrections as a result of those little deaths. The Christian believes, finally, that life overcomes even physical death. This is our Easter faith at work.

For us Catholics there is no better way to experience Easter faith than to join with others in our local faith communities for the liturgical celebrations centered on the mysteries of our suffering, dying and risen Savior. We are able to do this by participating in the Triduum, the three day celebration of: the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening, the Passion on Good Friday and the Great Easter Vigil on Saturday night before Easter morning. We do this not only by being physically present, but by paying attention to the words and symbols that fill these days.

Because our American culture does not allow us free time to spend quietly about six hours over three days in a sacred setting, most Catholics will have to find creative ways to feed and to deepen their faith. Obviously, Easter Sunday Mass is the bare minimum.

Perhaps the most spiritually satisfying experience of why Easter is the most important Catholic feast day might be in making an effort to attend the Great Easter Vigil. It takes place after dark. Perhaps sacrificing one's usual Saturday night activities in order to experience the true meaning of our 2,000-year history of celebrating life over death can be a way of appreciating the importance and the wonder of Christ's resurrection.

If such participation cannot happen, then quietly sitting alone or with other family members absorbing, and perhaps discussing, the readings, the prayers and the symbols of the Easter Vigil ritual might open a person to a deeper appreciation of why Easter is so important to Catholics.

Easter faith defines Catholic Christians. Easter faith cannot be explained by mere words. Easter faith is a way of life.

— Fr. Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D., is a retired priest of the Diocese who is involved in RCIA education and Spanish Ministry at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Raleigh.

**Send your questions to:**  
**"Since you asked ..."**

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

**Or:**

reece@raldioc.org

from the editor

## In God's Hands

**"It is indeed a profound spiritual experience to know and feel myself so totally in God's hands."**

**I**n 1981, Father Pedro Arrupe, Superior General of the Jesuit Order, suffered a stroke that left him paralyzed on his right side and virtually unable to speak. By 1983, when he resigned due to ill health, the only way he could communicate was with his eyes or the pressure of his left hand.

The Jesuits had called a General Congregation to accept Arrupe's resignation and elect his successor. At the opening session, Arrupe was wheeled into the hall, and a prayer which he had written was read to the assembly:

"More than ever I find myself in the hands of God. This is what I have wanted all my life from my youth. But now there is a difference; the initiative is entirely with God. It is indeed a profound spiritual experience to know and feel myself so totally in God's hands."

Surely this is an Easter story, a story of suffering and a kind of death giving way to, *even being necessary for*, a radiant, new spiritual life.

A radiant, new spiritual life is the hope and prayer of many in our Diocese for Father Frank Stangl, who went to his eternal rest on Feb. 2 at age 79. I met Father Stangl last fall at Holy Trinity Church in Williamston, where he would often celebrate Sunday Mass. He was a friendly man, and we spoke briefly about common roots in Missouri. I learned that he had taught Scripture there, and his scholarship and his enjoyment in teaching were obvious in his homily. It was only after his passing that I learned about the incredibly varied scope of his life in ministry. You can read more about Father Stangl on page 23.

Beginning in January, with the Respect Life Rally in Raleigh and the March for Life in Washington, D.C., and throughout the 40 Days for Life campaign during the season of Lent, so many in our Diocese have witnessed through prayer and presence to the sacredness of human life, from conception to natural death. In this issue you'll see some pictures of those events.

▶▶ Thank you, as always, for your letters of critique and encouragement. You can reach me at 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.

— Richard Reece is the editor of NC Catholics.





# Eucharist: 4 ways Christ is present at Mass

On the night before He died, Christ gathered His disciples for a meal. He **took** simple bread and wine. He **blessed** it in the great prayer of thanksgiving to His Father. He **broke** the bread and **gave** it to His disciples. It was a familiar ritual, only this time it was different.

This bread "is My Body which will be given up for you," Christ said. This cup "is the cup of My Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven." He commanded that we continue to do this in memory of Him (cf. 1 Cor. 23-26).

The Church has never failed

to follow this command. We continue to celebrate this sacrament and to give thanks (Greek – *eucharistein*) to God.

The Lord's Supper has always been inextricably linked to our Sunday celebrants of the Mass. We do not recreate the Last Supper every Sunday morning, rather we engage in *anam-*

## timeline: major developments in understanding the Eucharist

### 30-33 AD

#### Public Ministry of Jesus

- **Meals are important** – the wedding feast at Cana, feeding of the 5,000, dining with sinners and tax collectors.

to Emmaus, but recognize Him in the breaking of the bread (Luke 24:13-35). Christ prepares breakfast on the seashore. (John 21:1-14).

### New Testament

**Eucharist as part of an *agape* meal.** Paul scolds Corinth about its Eucharistic practices (1 Cor 11: 17-22, 26-34) and reminds them that "every time we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the death of our Lord" (11: 26).

### 2nd-8th Centuries

Ignatius of Antioch – *Letter to the Philadelphians* (110)

Three things as norm: **1** a gathered assembly **2** the presidency of bishop **3** the action of praise and thanksgiving with bread and wine.

### Justin Martyr (150) – *First*

*Apology* **1** early Christians gathered on a Sunday **2** Eucharist taken to absent members **3** Eucharist as part of initiation rite **4** infants receive Precious Blood.

### Tertullian (160-255) *On*

*Prayer* **1** Communion on Sundays, Wednesdays and

Fridays **2** penitential fasting and Eucharistic feasting are incompatible.

### Cyprian of Carthage

*The Lapsed* (251)

Repentance and reconciliation as conditions

for Communion.

### 9-10th Centuries

- 1** Latin is being used at Mass.
- 2** Private prayers of the priest added to liturgy.
- 3** Shift in understanding – priest praying while people doing other things.
- 4** Priests begin to give Communion by mouth.
- 5** Communion is distributed after Mass.

Jesus institutes the Eucharist at the Last Supper and commands His disciples to "Do this in memory of Me."

(1 Cor 11:23-25, Mt 26: 26-29; Mk 14: 22-25; Lk 22: 14-20)

### Post-Resurrection Meals

The disciples walk with Jesus on the road





nesis – a memory which makes present. In the great Eucharistic Prayer, we join ourselves to the sacrifice of Christ, made present on our altar, and offered again to the Father. This is the source and summit of the Christian life (SC #10, CCC 1324).

## Christ is present in the people, in the Word, in the priest and most especially in the Holy Eucharist.

Christ is present in four ways in the Mass – in the people, in the Word, in the priest and most especially in the Holy Eucharist. In traditional theological language, Christ becomes present under the appearance of bread and

wine. The “substance” (deepest reality) of bread and wine are changed by the Holy Spirit to the “substance” of Christ’s Body and Blood. The “accidents” (appearance or physical attributes) of bread and wine remain. This is defined as “transubstan-

tiation” (CCC 1376).

Christ is wholly present in either the bread or the wine, but it is fitting to receive Christ under both forms as a fuller expression and foretaste of the heavenly banquet.

When we receive Holy

Communion, we hear those wonderful words – “The Body of Christ.” We respond “Amen” (so be it). In so doing, we express our faith in the true Presence of Christ in the Eucharistic bread. But we also remind ourselves that this sacrament *forms* us as the Body of Christ. Nourished by this bread

and wine, Christ’s Body and Blood, we are called by God, though Christ our Head, and by the grace of the Spirit, to build the kingdom of God on earth.

In this sacrament, we find the cause and sign of our unity. In this sacrament, especially, the Lord continues to dwell among His people.



### 11-12th Centuries

- 1 Eucharist not just to be consumed, but also to be revered.
- 2 Decline in reception of Communion – people don’t consider themselves worthy.
- 3 Emphasis placed on “ocular Communion” during the elevation of the Blessed Sacrament.
- 4 Genuflection added at the consecration.

### 13-15th Centuries

- 1 1215 Lateran Council IV mandates minimum to receive Communion once a year, the “Easter duty.”
- 2 Pope Leo IV established the Feast of Corpus Christi in 1264.
- 3 St. Thomas Aquinas uses the philosophical arguments of Aristotle to describe the Eucharist: “substance” = Body and Blood of Christ;

“accidents” = bread and wine.

### 16-17th Centuries

- 1 Visits to Blessed Sacrament emphasized.
  - 2 Processions with Blessed Sacrament.
  - 3 Exposition of Blessed Sacrament so faithful might adore Christ’s true Presence.
- Council of Trent (1548-1563)**

- 1 Defines Transubstantiation.
- 2 Order of Mass becomes uniform and in Latin (Missal of Pius V, 1570).

- 3 Eucharist strengthens us spiritually and wipes away venial sins.

### Ritual of 1614

- 1 Advocates frequent Communion at Mass.
- 2 Provides rituals for Communion outside of Mass.



### 20th Century

- 1905 Pius X advocates frequent Communion; allows reception at age of reason (age 7)
- 1963 Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy

(see 1-14, 47-56)

- 1 Christ is present in people, priest, word, and most especially in the Holy Eucharist (#7).
- 2 Reform of the Mass, including return to vernacular language.
- 1965 Mass of Paul VI – revised Liturgical Year, Sacramentary and Lectionary.
- 1973 *Immensae Caritas*
- 1 Permits extraordinary ministers for distribution of Holy Communion.
- 2 Extends invitations to receive more than once per day.

- 3 Eliminates fast for ill and aged.

- 4 Restores reception of Eucharist in the hand.

- 2000 U.S. bishops issue pastoral letter on the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.
- 2002 New edition of the Roman Missal released.

- 2003 Pope John Paul II publishes the Encyclical *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, stating the “the Eucharist builds the Church and the Church makes the Eucharist.”





## No, really my mother was a saint

### St. Catherine of Sweden

**Feast Day: March 22**

**Patron saint of those who have suffered a miscarriage and those contemplating an abortion**

**Canonized in 1484 by Pope Innocent VIII**

**Meaning of name: Pure**

**Claim to fame:** Born in either 1331 or 1332, Catherine was the daughter of St. Bridget of Sweden. At age 14, Catherine married Eggart von Kurnen at the request of her father. She later journeyed to Rome with her mother and, upon her husband's death, remained with St. Bridget, taking an active role in her ministry. After St. Bridget's death, Catherine took over her mother's convent in Sweden, *Wadstena*, and formed

a community based on rules St. Bridget wrote. Catherine wrote *Consolation of the Soul*, but no copies of the book now exist.

**A beautiful girl, Catherine was constantly surrounded by suitors. She resisted their proposals, however, wanting instead to stay a virgin.**

She resisted their proposals, however, wanting instead to stay a virgin. It is said that when one Roman noble pursued her, a wild hind chased him away. Catherine spent 25 years in Rome, devoting her life to meditation and service of the poor.

**How she died:** During the Schism, Catherine went to Rome to promote her mother's canonization. She ended up testifying before a judicial committee in favor of Pope Urban VI. In return, he gave her a letter of commendation for her Bridgettine order. After five years in Rome, Catherine returned to Sweden, where she died of illness on March 24, 1381. — Katie Hicks



## Santa Catalina de Suecia

**Día festivo: 22 de marzo**  
**Santa patrona de los abortos espontáneos y contra el aborto**

**Canonizada en 1484 por el Papa Inocente VIII**

**Significado del nombre: Pura**

**Hechos que la hicieron famosa:** Nació en 1331 o 1332, Catalina era la hija de Santa Brígida de Suecia. A la edad de 14 años, Catalina se casó con Eggart von Kurnen a petición de su padre. Catalina más tarde viajó a Roma con su madre, y a la muerte de su

esposo permaneció con Santa Brígida, jugando un papel activo en sus obras piadosas. Santa Brígida murió y Catalina se encargó del convento de su madre en Suecia, *Wadstena*, y formó una comunidad basada en reglas que Santa Brígida escribió. Ella escribió *Consolación del Alma*, pero no existen actualmente copias del libro.

**Qué la hizo una santa:** Una muchacha bella, Catalina estaba constantemente rodeada de pretendientes. Sin embargo, ella resistía sus propuestas, queriendo en vez, permanecer una virgen. Se cuenta que cuando un noble romano la perseguía, una cierva salvaje lo alejó. Ella pasó 25 años en Roma dedicando su vida a la meditación y al servicio de los pobres.

**Cómo murió:** Durante el Cisma, Catalina fue a Roma a promover la canonización de su madre. Ella terminó testificando ante un comité judicial a favor del Papa Urbano VI, y a cambio de ello, él le dio una carta de aprobación para su orden Brigidina. Después de cinco años en Roma, Catalina regresó a Suecia, donde murió pronto de enfermedad el 24 de marzo de 1381.

**She never ran her train off the tracks**  
**What year did Harriet Tubman die?**

▶▶ Known as the "Moses of her people," Harriet Tubman, as **conductor of the Underground Railroad**, led hundreds of slaves to freedom in the North. This brave woman who fought for the freedom of her people died in Auburn, N.Y., on **March 10, WHAT YEAR?**



▶▶ **\$245,000 was stolen** from the City Bank of New York in American history's first recorded bank robbery on **March 19, WHAT YEAR?**

▶▶ Official prayer as a part of the school day was outlawed in public schools on **March 8, WHAT YEAR** when the U.S. Supreme Court found **religious education within public schools** to be a violation of the Constitution's First Amendment.



## Classmates of Distinction

**D**uring the predictions of a major snow in Raleigh last January, I spent some time looking at my photo albums from my seminary days. It brought back a flood of good memories.

These photos started in the late 1940s in the aftermath of World War II. I believe that in the wake of this conflict, black people in the United States began to rise above the expected and began to be included in state and church.

Among these pictures several seminarians stood out. They were **Dom Cyprian Davis, OSB, Bishop Carlos Lewis, Bishop Joseph Bowers and Bishop Harold Perry.**

►► **Dom Cyprian** is a noted Church historian who wrote the first definitive history of black Catholics in the United States. He is a monk of St Meinrad Archabbey in Indiana, where he teaches Church History there and is also an international lecturer.

►► **Bishop Harold Perry, SVD**, after serving in various capacities in his society, was named Auxiliary Bishop of New Orleans. He was the first black bishop in modern times.

He was an engaging speaker, and was in the group of black clerics who founded the Black Catholic Clergy Caucus.

►► **Bishop Joseph Bowers** was named Bishop of Accra in Ghana. He was the first black bishop in modern times in Africa. After he was succeeded by an African-born bishop, he became the first Bishop of St. John's Basseterre, a Diocese comprising several islands in the Caribbean.

►► **Bishop Carlos Lewis** was a native of Panama. He was named an Auxiliary Bishop there, where he gave dedicated ministry drawing on his pastoral experience in the States.

This is the season of the Resurrection of the Lord. These are the stories of priests who also rose above what was expected.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden

## La Pascua, el Espíritu Vivo de Cristo

**L**a Cuaresma nos dio la pauta para reconocer los caminos del Señor; la penitencia, el ayuno y la limosna se han traducido en gozo, alegría y júbilo. Se transforma la austeridad con el derroche de la vida, los sacramentos y una nueva estación donde todo canta un nuevo comienzo, una renovación y la vivencia de la gran noticia: ¡Cristo ha resucitado y vive!

**La Pascua sigue animando con su espíritu a toda la Iglesia para actualizar el misterio de Cristo, no solo en la Eucaristía donde se hace presente el misterio de la Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de Cristo, sino también en la vivencia de la caridad y en la renovación del don de ser parte viva de la Iglesia.**

La Pascua se nos da como una jornada para vivir la gracia y la presencia del Espíritu de Cristo que vive en la vida de la Iglesia, que anima a los cristianos a vivir su vocación y el don de sus gracias. Se descubre en los signos de los tiempos lo que deben hacer, vivir y construir, a pesar de las adversidades que los acompañan en cada momento.

La Pascua sigue animando con su espíritu a toda la Iglesia para actualizar el misterio de Cristo, no solo en la Eucaristía donde se hace presente el misterio de la Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de Cristo, sino también en la vivencia de la caridad y en la renovación del don de ser parte viva de la Iglesia.

La parroquia es el centro de la comunidad donde Cristo se manifiesta y hace presente el don de la vida nueva; atrayendo a todos los grupos apostólicos, a

los diferentes ministerios y a los que se habían alejado para hacer de todos una comunidad de comunidades. Una unidad viva que nos debe llevar a proclamar que el espíritu de Cristo resucitado está actuando en la vida de la familia parroquial.

La familia también debe sentirse renovada y fortalecida con ese mismo espíritu ayudando a acrecentar el deseo de vivir la vocación que se nos ha dado de ser padres, hijos, familia y parte de una comunidad.

La Pascua Nos llama a todos a ser testigos con la vida, con las obras y con la fe de ser elegidos y nos ha dado una nueva razón para vivir su triunfo desde la Cruz hasta la Eternidad. — Padre Fernando Torres



Mike Haidler







# THE EUCHARIST

What draws people to the Catholic Church?  
Converts tell their stories

COVER STORY

By Rich Reece | Photography by Denmark Photo & Video

**D**Dr. Edwin Hartman, a Presbyterian who became Catholic in 2000, is uncomfortable with the term “conversion.” To Dr. Hartman, “It denotes a turning away from something, and while I’ve embraced Catholicism I haven’t turned away from my religious roots or the community I found in the Presbyterian Church. In that sense, I know it sounds odd, but I think of myself now as completely Catholic and completely Protestant.”

Dr. Hartman believes he felt drawn to the Catholic Church from his childhood in Pittsburgh, where many of his friends were Catholic. That “lifelong familiarity” with the Church blossomed into fascination in Italy, when Hartman was pursuing medical studies there. On his return to the States, he settled in Clayton and enrolled in a Catholic home study course on the Internet. Finally, in what he calls the “Internet moment,” he e-mailed Dr. Terry Jackson, then Director of Evangelization

and Catechesis for the Diocese of Raleigh.

“I told him to stop by and we’d have lunch,” Jackson recalls. As luck would have it, then Bishop F. Joseph Gossman was also free, and the inquiring doctor had lunch with both men. Soon afterwards, Hartman entered the RCIA at Cathedral Parish. Although he had a desire to join the Church, he approached the initiation process with typical intellectual rigor. “My RCIA director said I asked too many ques-

tions,” he recalls, laughing.

Blanche Ellison, the director at the time and now a close friend of Dr. Hartman’s, recalls those questions, and laughs as well. “I remember at one point saying, ‘Ed, are you going to Mass?’ And he looked at me, puzzled for a moment, as if that hadn’t occurred to him. So I said, ‘You’ve got to go to Mass.’ And I think it was his experience of the Eucharist that finally solidified his decision.” ►



**F**or Father David Brockman, Vicar General of the Diocese of Raleigh, the Eucharist was the “doorway” to the Catholic Church.

Fr. Brockman grew up in the Chicago area, where his father is a physician. But the family had deep Southern Baptist roots, and when it came time for college, like the Brockman men and women of three generations before him, he attended Furman University in Greenville, SC. “As a child I’d had Catholic friends, had noticed their devotional practices and even been to Mass,” he recalls. “But serious intellectual and spiritual exploration really started for me, as it does for many young people, in college.”

In South Carolina, Fr. Brockman would drive 25 miles on Sunday to attend the Baptist church with his relatives. But several of his Catholic fraternity brothers were less conscientious about Mass attendance. In what seems in retrospect a pastoral impulse, Brockman offered to go with them to the local Catholic church. Several times, out of curiosity, he attended the Sunday evening Mass with them, and enjoyed it.

"I appreciated the sense of reverence, the structure of the Mass and the architecture of the church building," he says, "but I was most drawn to the Eucharist. It helped me understand what I had read in the Bible about Jesus' words at the Last Supper, 'This is my Body.' I was drawn to His Real Presence.

"The parish also had a very committed, holy pastor, Msgr. Don Gorski. He seemed grounded in the Lord, at peace." The pastoral associate also encouraged Fr. Brockman. She was Sister Kitty Bethea, O.P., who would later come to the Diocese of Raleigh.

Eventually, Fr. Brockman regularly attended Mass and other community activities. In his senior year, he began RCIA. How did his parents react?

"I didn't tell them," he explains. "Frankly, I was frightened of my dad's reaction. And later, when I went to the seminary, he was not pleased. That changed gradually, though, when he realized that I hadn't

been influenced by  
'outside' forces.

"At least," he says with a smile, "not by outside human forces, but by the Lord."

The reconciliation became complete several years later, when Father Brockman was Pastor of St. Luke the Evangelist in Raleigh. His father said he was visiting at Easter, and would like to receive Communion.

"I said I would love for that to happen, it was a goal, but it wasn't possible," Father Brockman remem-

bers. "Sort of jokingly, I said, 'You should join the RCIA.' And he said 'I did.' He had started in August the year before, and even though we had visited twice since then he hadn't said a word. 'But Dad,' I said, 'you never said anything!' And he said, 'Neither did you!'" That Easter the young pastor had the great joy of welcoming his father into full communion with the Church.



Melissa DuCharme joined the Church in 1997. Raised Lutheran in the Midwest by a family that was very involved in their church, she married a Catholic.

"We wanted to go to the same church," she says, "and we visited several. We loved St. Michael's (in Cary)."

The most important factor in her conversion? "The beauty of the Eucharist," she says without hesitation. "The meaning of Communion."

"I fell in love with the faith during RCIA," she explains. "The Church has so much to offer as life unfolds. When my grandfather died, it was so comforting to think of him as an intercessor. When I became a mother, I learned to appreciate my relationship with Mary. More recently, the social teachings of the Church have spoken to me especially powerfully."



Fr. David Brockman

DuCharme volunteered to assist the Diocesan Office of Peace and Justice, and today gives presentations through Catholic Charities to help parishes enhance their social justice ministries.

"One of the great things about the Catholic Church," she says, "is its vast history. It has thousands of years of thinking and guidance to offer in every area that challenges us."



Church history, and a Protestant minister, started Echo Lewis on the road to conversion. In college in the '60s, she signed up with friends for a Church History course at a nearby Presbyterian church. "Two things the minister said got me interested," Lewis recalls. "He said that Protestants don't give Mary her due, and that Church History started with the Catholic Church; Protestant history only went so far."

One Sunday a time later, "I was bored, so I went to Mass with some Catholic friends." At Communion, she noticed a bearded priest in the congregation. Later she asked her friends, "Who is he? Why wasn't he up in front with the other priests?"

His name was Father Patrick McNulty, and his social and ecclesiastical activism had earned him a reputation as a “radi-





Melissa DuCharme



Doctor Edwin Hartman

**"I appreciated the sense of reverence, the structure of the Mass and the architecture of the church building," he says, "but I was most drawn to the Eucharist. It helped me understand what I had read in the Bible about Jesus' words at the Last Supper, 'This is my Body.' I was drawn to His Real Presence.**

cal," and disfavor with his bishop. "I don't know what it was about him," Echo Lewis recalls, "but I had a sense that he would be important in my life." Under the pretext of writing an article for her college newspaper, Lewis arranged to meet the priest, and discovered her intuition had been accurate. "He was a man who lived what he talked," Lewis says.

Father Pat became a guide on Lewis's journey in search of spiritual truth. "After one of our conversations," Lewis says, "he told me to go home and read the Gospels. I wasn't sure what a 'Gospel' was – we hadn't used that terminology. So I went home and narrowed it down to Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts. The next week I proudly told Father Pat, 'I read all five!'"

The priest would be Lewis's sponsor when she was received into the Church, and today she cites him as one of the most

important influences in her conversion. But not the most important.

"That was the Eucharist," Lewis says. "I connected with the Real Presence at a deep, intuitive, almost unconscious level."

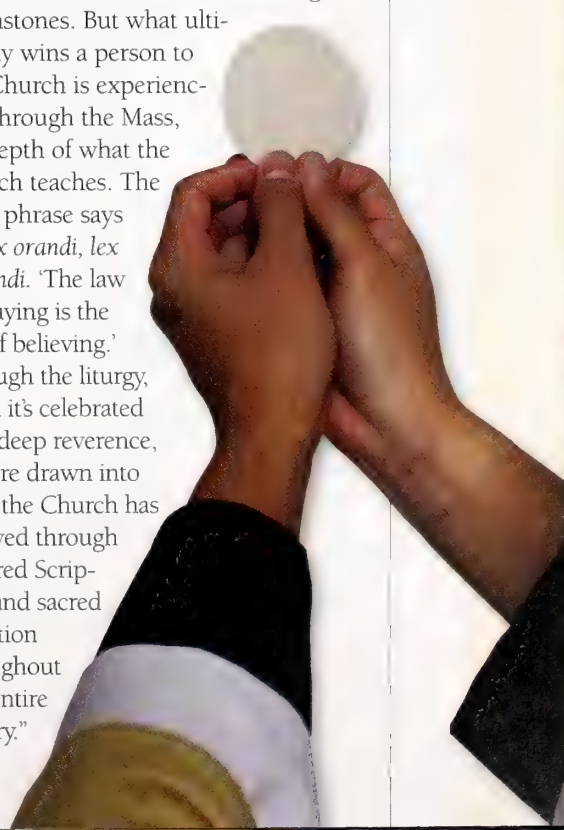
It was Father Pat who first told Lewis about the Madonna House Apostolate, which became her vocation. Madonna House is a Catholic community of lay men, women, and priests dedicated to loving and serving Jesus Christ. It was founded in 1947 by Catherine Doherty in Combermere, Ontario, Canada, and has established missionary field houses world-wide. Today Lewis is an associate at the Raleigh field house, and is writing a biography of Catherine Doherty.



As a pastor, Father Brockman has seen many conversions to Catholicism. Every journey is unique, but he sees

some similarities.

"There are things that attract people in the beginning," he says. "The vibrancy of the faith community, its mission work, the beauty of the architecture, compelling preaching heroes of the faith, canonized or not. Those things are touchstones. But what ultimately wins a person to our Church is experiencing, through the Mass, the depth of what the Church teaches. The Latin phrase says it: *Lex orandi, lex credendi*. 'The law of praying is the law of believing.' Through the liturgy, when it's celebrated with deep reverence, you are drawn into what the Church has believed through inspired Scripture and sacred Tradition throughout Her entire history."







# “La Eucaristía”

¿Qué atrae a las personas a la Iglesia Católica? La historia de cuatro personas y su proceso de conversión

**E**l Dr. Edwin Hartman, anteriormente formaba parte de la Iglesia Presbiteriana, y en el año 2000 se cambió a la Iglesia católica; el Dr Hartman se siente incomodo con el termino “conversión” puesto que para él denota –apartarse de algo, y a medida que aceptaba al catolicismo, no sentía que me alejaba de mis raíces religiosas o de la Iglesia Presbiteriana. En este sentido, sé que suena un poco extraño, pero pienso que ahora soy un católico y un protestante completo.

Hartman cree que su atracción por la Iglesia Católica comenzó desde su infancia en Pittsburgh, puesto que muchos de sus amigos eran católicos; esa “eterna familiaridad” con la Iglesia floreció en Italia cuando realizaba sus estudios en medicina. A su regreso a los Estados Unidos, se estableció en Clayton donde tomó clases en línea sobre el catolicismo; finalmente, en lo que él llama “el momento en línea” decidió enviarle un correo electrónico al Dr. Terry Jackson, en aquel entonces, Director de Evangelización y Catecismo de la Diócesis de Raleigh.

– Le dije que viniera para almorzar – recuerda Jackson. Por suerte, el Obispo F. Joseph Gossman también estaba disponible en ese momento, y el doctor almorzó con ambos. Poco después, el doctor comenzó en el rito de iniciación cristiana para adultos RICA en la Catedral, pero comenzó el proceso de iniciación con el típico nivel intelectual de rigor – La directora de RICA dice que hago demasiadas preguntas – recuerda con humor.

La Directora del programa de aquel entonces, Blanche Ellison, ahora muy buena amiga de Hartman, también sonríe al recordar esas preguntas – recuerdo que le comenté: Ed, ¿Asistes a Misa? Y por un momento me miró perplejo, entonces le



● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

— No les dije nada — explicó el sacerdote. — Para ser sincero, estaba aterrado de la reacción de mi padre y después cuando ingresé al seminario, mi padre enfureció. Luego cambió al darse cuenta de que no fui influenciado por “fuerzas externas.” — Por los menos, no por ninguna fuerza humana, sino por la fuerza

● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

• • • • •

Un domingo, — estaba aburrida, así que me decidí a asistir a la Misa católica con unos amigos. Durante la comunión, ella se dio cuenta de un barbudo sacerdote en la

● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

– Hay muchas cosas por la cual las personas se sienten atraídas en el comienzo – comenta. – La energía de la comunidad de fe, su misión, la belleza de la música o de la arquitectura, los héroes de la fe, canonizados o no, etc. Todos esos elementos son clave, pero lo que realmente hace que las personas se interesen en nuestra Iglesia es la experiencia que se vive en las Misas y la profundidad de las enseñanzas de la Iglesia. Hay una frase en Latín que dice: *Lex orando, lex credendi* (la ley de la oración es la ley de la fe) A través de la Liturgia, cuando se celebra con gran reverencia, tienen acceso a las creencias de la Iglesia inspiradas en las Escrituras y en la sagrada tradición a lo largo de la historia.



# Querido lector de NCC

Este mes con el Padre, Dr. Jonathan A. Woodhull

**Querido lector: Un amigo dice que la Pascua es el día más importante del año para los católicos, pero pensé que el día más importante era Navidad, por favor explique.**

**S**egún San Pablo: "...Y si Cristo no ha resucitado, nuestra predicación no sirve para nada, como tampoco la fe de ustedes." (1 Corintios 15:14) Esta expresión de creencia católica define los fundamentos de nuestra fe. **Primero**, la experiencia personal de María Magdalena, el primer día al comienzo de la semana; **segundo**, la experiencia de los primeros seguidores de Jesús y **tercero**, la experiencia personal de San Pablo del Señor Resucitado en el camino hacia Damasco dos décadas antes de la primera celebración de la Pascua, quizás no fuéramos los cristianos que somos hoy en día.

La Pascua celebra la victoria de Jesús sobre la muerte y celebra nuestra fe que la vida no termina con la muerte. De esta manera, la Pascua es la fiesta más solemne para los cristianos católicos quienes profesan la creencia de que nuestro Dios es el Dios de la vida y no un Dios de muerte. Sin embargo, su pregunta conlleva a hacer otra consideración importante. A nivel de la fe, el Cristianismo es único en la creencia de que un Dios Divino vino entró en nuestras vida en la forma de un ser humano, y este evento lo definimos como la Encarnación. También celebramos el nacimiento de Jesús y lo llamamos la fiesta de la Natividad.

En mi opinión, sería poco productivo discutir cuál de las celebraciones es más importante para la fe cristiana. La tradición que conllevó a la escritura del Evangelio y subsecuentemente al pensamiento espiritual

y teológico, enfatiza la importancia de la Resurrección en nuestra historia de la salvación, pero al nivel popular, algunos no discuten que la Navidad tiene más peso en ciertas culturas que la Pascua y nuestra cultura Americana es una de ellas. Entonces, la pregunta de la Navidad versus la Pascua es un asunto cultural y no una pregunta teológica.

De hecho, muchas culturas católicas fuera de nuestra cultura católica Americana celebra la encarnación

de diferentes maneras: En México, las Posadas, la renovación de María y José, los migrantes que buscan refugio y resguardo en los días antes del nacimiento de Jesús, son más festivos que el 25 de diciembre. La celebración de los "tres reyes magos" el 6 de enero es mas celebrado que el 25 de diciembre en muchos de las culturas latinoamericanas. En culturas católicas de Europa, la Manifestación del Señor a los Gentiles, la Epifanía, es mas celebrada que el mismo 25 de diciembre.

Nosotros los católicos americanos debemos distinguir entre los asuntos culturales y los asuntos de fe. Es fácil ser arrastrado por la cultura del lugar donde uno reside; si la persona no piensa en sus creencias y lo que es importante, entonces la fe de esa persona es superficial y esa fe no sobrevive a las dificultades que la vida le presenta a cada ser humano. La persona de fe no permite que la cultura secular dictamine su fe. La persona de fe trata de formar su cultura de acuerdo con sus creencias.

**La Pascua celebra la victoria de Jesús sobre la muerte y celebra nuestra fe que la vida no termina con la muerte. De esta manera, la Pascua es la fiesta más solemne para los cristianos católicos quienes profesan la creencia de que nuestro Dios es el Dios de la vida y no un Dios de muerte.**

El cristiano experimenta lo que el Salvador experimentó, como los malos entendidos y las traiciones de aquellos más cercanos a él. El cristiano experimenta dar todo de si mismo al igual que experimenta la muerte de muchas maneras, pero, el cristiano también experimenta la resurrección como resultado de esas muertes. Finalmente, el cristiano cree que la vida supera incluso la muerte física. Para nosotros los católicos no existe mejor manera de experimentar la fe durante la Pascua que unirse a la comunidad en las celebraciones litúrgicas enfocadas el triduo del sufrimiento, muerte y resurrección de nuestro Salva-



J. Dornick



dor. Nuestra participación durante los tres días de celebración de: La Última Cena del Señor el jueves santo, la Pasión el Viernes Santo y la Gran Vigilia Pascual del sábado por la noche antes de mañana del domingo; hacemos esto no solo con nuestra presencia, también cuando prestamos atención a las palabras y a los símbolos durante la celebración.

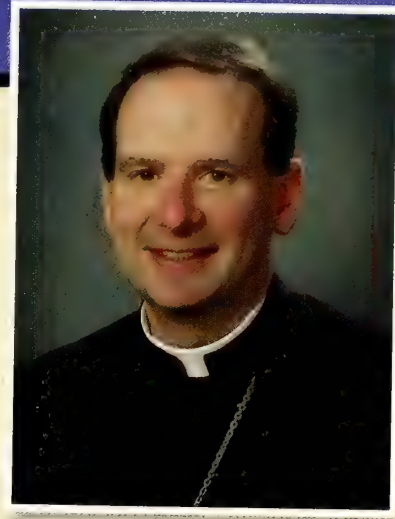
Nuestra cultura Americana no nos brinda el tiempo libre que necesitamos para estar en completa quietud por seis horas durante tres días en un lugar sagrado, entonces muchos católicos tienen que ingeniárselas para alimentar y fortalecer la fe y claro está que se debe asistir como mínimo a la Misa del Domingo de Pascua. Quizás una de las experiencias más espirituales de la celebración y la importancia de la Pascua para los católicos son durante la Gran Vigilia Pascual que se lleva a cabo al atardecer. Quizás el hecho de sacrificar las actividades rutinarias del sábado para experimentar el verdadero sentido de estos dos mil años de historia de la celebración victoriosa de la vida sobre la muerte, puede interpretarse como una manera de apreciar la importancia de la maravilla de la Resurrección de Cristo. De no ser posible participar en esta celebración, también puede disfrutar de un momento de quietud o discutir con otros miembros de la familia, de las escrituras, de las oraciones y símbolos que hacen de este rito de la Vigilia Pascual una experiencia gratificante y apreciativa de la importancia de esta celebración para los católicos.

La fe pascual define a los cristianos católicos y esta fe no puede explicarse con palabras, puesto que la fe Pascual es una forma de vida.

-El Padre Jonathan A. Woodhall, es un sacerdote jubilado de la Diócesis quien participa activamente en el programa RICA y en el Ministerio Hispano de la Catedral del Sagrado Corazón en Raleigh.

## Celebremos el triunfo del Señor

**D**e una manera muy especial a través de este Tiempo de Cuaresma, nos hemos unido más cercanamente al sufrimiento de Cristo. Nosotros podemos identificar las cruces que llevamos a cuestas: la carga de la tentación y el pecado, la angustia física y emocional que nosotros y nuestros seres queridos experimentamos, las preocupaciones del presente y la ansiedad relacionada con el futuro. Sin embargo, como verdaderos seguidores de Cristo, nunca perdemos la esperanza en medio de nuestros sufrimientos o cruces. Nosotros recibimos la verdad de la Semana Santa: ¡Que Jesucristo destruyó para siempre el poder del mal y de la oscuridad para que vivamos en Su Luz y disfrutemos de una vida renovada, ahora y siempre! ¡Él, es el Rey de la Victoria y Su Victoria es nuestra!



Recordemos las palabras de este antiguo himno de Pascua:

**¡Aleluya, Aleluya, Aleluya!**  
**La ruda lucha terminó, la muerte Cristo conquistó;**  
**de triunfo el Canto comenzo.**  
**¡Aleluya!**

A lo largo del Tiempo la Cuaresma y durante los próximos días y semanas del Tiempo de Pascua, continuaremos celebrando la victoria del Señor. Me siento profundamente inspirado por el incontable número de fieles que celebraron el Sacramento de Penitencia con miras hacia la preparación de la Pascua. ¡Que poderosa manera de proclamar el triunfo del Señor por encima del pecado! También fue gratificante ver a muchas personas que fueron ungidas en la Misa diocesana en conmemoración a los 150 años de la aparición de nuestra Santísima Madre en Lourdes. ¡Que forma tan poderosa de celebrar el triunfo del Señor sobre el sufrimiento!

También fue conmovedor, ver a los Elegidos en nuestra Diócesis recibir el bautismo, la confirmación y la Primera Eucaristía en la

Vigilia Pascual, al igual que los bautizados quienes se iniciaron completamente en la vida sacramental de la Iglesia. ¡Que poderoso testimonio de la nueva Vida que es nuestra en Jesucristo. Estoy muy complacido de observar la continua devoción, celebración y recepción de la Santa Eucaristía a lo largo de la diócesis. Que señal tan poderosa de nuestra creencia en que solamente Jesucristo puede satisfacer nuestros corazones hambrientos.

Sabemos de muchas personas en el mundo, dentro de nuestras propias familias y círculos de amigos que necesitan desesperadamente redescubrir la Fuente de nuestra esperanza, aún en medio de nuestro sufrimiento. Por esta razón, en palabra y compromiso, debemos proclamar fuertemente que:

**La ruda lucha terminó la muerte**  
**¡Cristo conquistó!**

Es mi esperanza y mi oración que nuestro Señor Resucitado los bendiga con Su paz y alegría y les otorgue la gracia de ser testigos verdaderos de la nueva Vida que es nuestra a través de Él, con Él y en Él. ¡Aleluya!

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh





**I** was on my way with a friend to a retreat in the hills of Kentucky. We were going to the Abbey of Gethsemani to spend a week of prayer with the Trappist monks. They are a community of men who consecrate their lives to God through Christ by living a life of prayer and work. They follow closely the Rule of St. Benedict that has guided monastic living in the West for 1,500 years. Their formal title is the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance. While that title might scare a lot of people off, it apparently does not keep retreatants away, because we were informed that the retreat house was almost always full. There is a hunger and thirst for Christ in all of us, and our Lord moves us to seek his face.

Upon arrival at the monastery, we entered into silence. No TV. No phone. No radio. No Internet. Only the sound of nature, or the bell calling us to prayer, or the voices of the monks singing and chanting praise to God. Silence was the discipline that really stood out in great contrast to our noisy world. The monks would speak and sing to God in prayer, but would only speak to one another when needed; "Be still and know that I am God!" Such a discipline helped create and maintain the condition for prayer. Another beautiful discipline characteristic of Bene-

## how to pray like a monk

### Trappist spirituality today

dictine spirituality is its liturgical focus. They pray the psalms throughout the day and night and celebrate the Eucharist each day. Praying the 150 psalms in a structured way is called the Liturgy of the Hours. At seven designated times during the day and night, the monks gather to pray and to hear God's word. They join with Christians all over the world to

praise, thank and petition God. The idea is that time itself is sacred and a gift from God. What better use of time is there than to spend it with God? St. Paul urges us to pray always. So, the monk's life is dedicated to the Holy Spirit's work of sanctifying time through prayer. It was a powerful experience to be able to join the monks in prayer. I had a sense of being swept up with the angels in praise of the living God.

Another dimension of Benedictine spirituality is the discipline of fasting. Most of the monks looked healthy, but pretty thin. The food we ate was simple – mainly vegetarian cuisine. It is a little ironic that, in their work, Trappist monks produce delicious food items like cheese, fruit-cakes, fudge, wine or beer to help them pay their bills. I wondered if they ever eat the

fruit of their own labors? Besides the cheese, it certainly did not look like it! The monks' labor reminded me of St. Paul, who worked as a tent-maker during his ministry so as not to burden anyone. The monks have renounced the world to dedicate their lives to God through communal life and prayer. As a community, they are salt and light for our world.

Hospitality is very important for all Trappists and other Benedictines. To welcome the stranger out of love for Jesus Christ is a part of their Benedictine spirituality and rule, and we certainly experienced that immediately from the monk who greeted us at the airport. When our monk chauffeur realized we had not eaten anything all day, he took us to a place that offered a tremendous buffet. He realized that, at the monastery, the food would be wholesome, but might be a big



change from our normal diet: "So eat up!" That buffet got me to think of the Messianic banquet prepared for us by Christ. It was overflowing. "Come to me, all you who labor and find life burdensome, and I will give you rest." (Mt 11:28) "Come to the water, all you who are thirsty! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; Come without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk." (Is 55:1) We did! There was so much to pick from – a wide variety of food that satisfied all. It was a good appetizer to the real feast of the retreat.

The same could be said for Catholic spirituality. All Catholic spiritualities draw us to the Messianic banquet of Christ. At a banquet, it is true we can pick and choose what we want to feast on. That analogy does not always

in expression, differ in spiritual gifts and ministry, differ in focus and devotion but don't differ in their essence. They are Catholic because they spring from the heart of Christ, are rooted in him and reveal in their own unique ways the power of his death and resurrection that transforms the person into another Christ.

All Catholic spiritualities have Christ as their center and are movements of the Holy Spirit to further draw the soul to complete union with God. Benedictine spirituality is one of them, and has blessed the church for nearly 1,500 years, but there are many more. Just in terms of religious orders – there are hundreds of them.

In reflecting on the more familiar ones, we have religious men and women who are drawn by God to

truth and so often minister in the church as teachers. The Order of Preachers, or Jesuits or Benedictines would

## All Catholic spiritualities have Christ as their center and are movements of the Holy Spirit to further draw the soul to complete union with God.

work with regard to our faith. We do not pick and choose parts of the Gospel or Catholic teaching to live or believe in. When we follow Jesus, we must pick up our cross, die to self and sin, and follow him through death to resurrection. We live out our baptism in Christ. That is central to all Catholic spiritualities. Without the paschal mystery – the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection – there is no Catholic spirituality.

However, in terms of Catholic spiritualities, there is a sense of being in a banquet or buffet line. There is so much there! Another helpful image is that of a garden. Our Lord has established the church almost as a new Garden of Eden. In Eden, God gave human beings many kinds of fruit trees from which to eat. In the church, God has also given us many variations of Gospel life that may differ

be an example. There are those who are drawn to the poor by love and charity and want to spread that love through acts of service. The Missionaries of Charity and Franciscans are great examples. There are religious orders whose members are drawn to lives of prayer and contemplation, among them the Carmelites or Trappistines (female branch of the Trappists) or Poor Clares.

There are religious orders whose members run hospitals, or have ministries of healing or evangelization. To list them with some explanation would take many books! The more one looks, the more one realizes how large is this garden of God we call the church in its expression of Christian life. How truly beautiful it is. It is truly the mustard seed that has grown into the largest of shrubs with room on its branches for all.

## spiritual exercise

### 3 ways to experience monastic life

Many orders have lay members or lay associates who are drawn to imitate the life and practice of the order without taking formal vows.

**T**his month, consider your own spirituality and ask the Lord to help you grow and expand your own horizons:

- **Consider learning more about religious orders.**

There are many new religious orders forming all over the world. Many orders have lay members or lay associates who are drawn to imitate the life and practice of the order without taking formal vows.



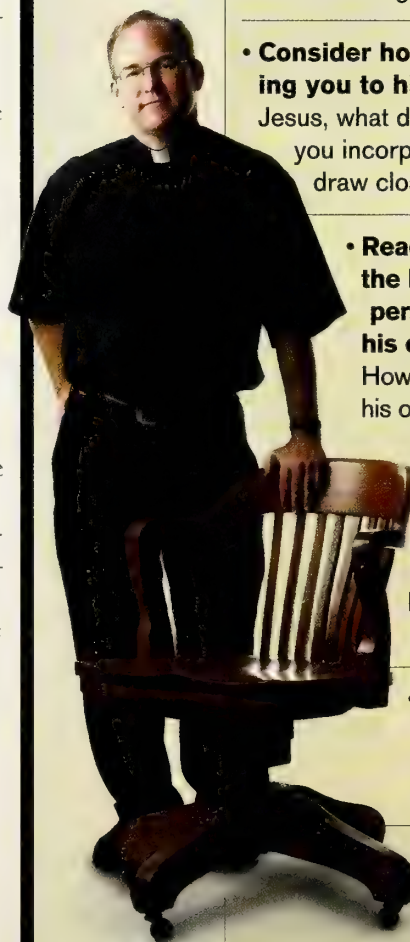
- **Consider how the Lord is drawing you to himself.** In your life with Jesus, what devotional practices have you incorporated that help you draw closer to him?

- **Read a spiritual book on the life of a saint or holy person and think about his or her spirituality.**

How could you better imitate his or her example? (One possible suggestion would be Thomas Merton's book, *Seven Storey Mountain*, which is an autobiography of Merton's conversion and path to monastic life.

- **Go on a retreat.** Enter into the quiet! Let God speak to your heart. Do whatever he tells you.

– Fr. Bill Ashbaugh





## Franciscan School Students Pray "Living Rosary"

►► On Thursday, Jan. 31, as part of Catholic Schools Week in the Diocese of Raleigh, students at Raleigh's Franciscan School gathered in St. Francis of Assisi Church to pray a "Living Rosary." Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, along with Dr. Michael Fedewa, Diocesan Superintendent of Formation and Education, attended the Rosary, prayed according to the seven-decade "Franciscan Crown."



Dr. Michael Fedewa, Diocesan Superintendent of Formation and Education, attended the Rosary, prayed according to the seven-decade "Franciscan Crown."

Father Mark Reamer, OFM, Pastor of St. Francis, began the service by explaining the origin of the Franciscan

Crown, which dates to 1422, when a young man who found spiritual joy in weaving crowns of wild flowers for a statue of Mary became a novice in the Franciscan community. The young man was saddened when his new duties no longer left him time to gather flowers for his personal devotion. One evening, while he was feeling tempted to abandon his vocation, the Virgin Mother appeared and encouraged him to persevere, instructing him to meditate daily on seven joyful events from her own life (the Annunciation, Visitation, Birth of Our



## Church Marks Lourdes Apparition, Day of the Sick

►► On Feb. 11, the faith community of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Raleigh celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the Apparition of the Immaculate Conception to Saint Bernadette in Lourdes, France.

## Diocese Welcomes Duke Professor

►► On Jan. 31, the Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Mass at the Duke University Divinity School to formally welcome to the Diocese Dr. Paul Griffiths, the school's first William K. Warren Foundation Professor of Catholic Theology. Father Joseph Vetter, Director of the Diocesan Office of Campus Ministry and Campus Minister at Duke's Newman Catholic Student Center, along with Father Emmanuel Katongole, an Associate Professor in the Divinity School, concelebrated.

Bishop Burbidge delivered the homily, emphasizing the responsibility of teachers to come to the aid of students who, despite talents and material advantages, "sit in the darkness" of anxiety or confusion about their direction in life, and to be instruments in leading them "to see the light and to embrace the truth and the wisdom that come from above."

Addressing Professor Griffiths and his colleagues, the bishop said, "I look forward to working closely with you in the important and essential work of bringing increased understanding and recognition of our Catholic faith to this campus, the Diocese of Raleigh and our entire region." He also congratulated Father Vetter, who will mark the 35th anniversary of his priestly ordination on Feb. 4.



Father Joseph Vetter, Dr. Paul Griffiths, and Bishop Michael F. Burbidge.

Lord, Adoration of the Magi, Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple, the Resurrection of Our Lord, and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin and her Coronation in heaven), as a new form of the Rosary. Instead of a crown of flowers, the novice would now weave a crown of prayers.

At St. Francis, after singing a hymn to Mary, students lined up,

as if in a chain -- hence the term "Living Rosary" -- with individual students introducing the joyful events and leading an Our Father or Hail Mary or Glory Be to the Father until seven decades were complete. At the end of the service, Bishop Burbidge addressed the students, praising their efforts and encouraging them to continue in daily prayer.

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge presided.

The Feast Day was also marked by the Church's 16th Annual World Day for the Sick, where faithful with serious health problems received the anointing of the sick, one of the Church's seven sacraments.

In his homily, Bishop Burbidge spoke of the importance of Mary as our "intercessor constantly pleading the cause of humanity."

"We come to the Church this evening with the burden of our sins and failures," the bishop said. "We come with our physical disabilities, ailments and sufferings. We come with our spiritual darkness and emotional needs." He added we come, longing for Mary's intercession, but must be ready to fulfill the words she speaks in the Gospel, "Do whatever He tells you."

Bishop Burbidge thanked those dedicated to caring for the sick, including doctors, nurses, hospice, health and pastoral care workers, and priests, sisters and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist. Following the homily, those suffering health problems received the Sacrament of the Anointing of the sick. Bishop Burbidge and attending priests prayed over the people and anointed their heads and hands with the oil of the sick.



## Father Frank Stangl, 1923-2008

▶▶ Father Frank John Stangl, S.T.D., 79, died in Rocky Mount on Feb. 2, after a brief illness. Father Stangl was born in St. Louis, Missouri on May 16, 1928. He attended Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School in St. Louis as well as the archdiocesan Latin School. He began his studies as a seminarian at St. Louis Preparatory Seminary and Kendrick Seminary and was sent to Rome to complete his theological studies and formation for the priesthood. He was ordained to the priesthood on Dec. 19, 1953, at the North American College in Rome, Italy and served as a priest for 54 years. Incardinated as a priest of the Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri, Father Stangl served his diocese in a wide range of ministries. He served as Parochial Vicar at St. Peter Catholic Church in Jefferson City, Our Lady of Lourdes in Columbia and the Newman Center at the University of Missouri in Columbia. He also served his Diocese as the first editor of his Diocesan newspaper, The Catholic Missourian, and as Chaplain at Fulton State Hospital in Fulton and at St. Jude Thaddeus in Mokane.

He received his doctorate in Sacred Theology from the Gregorian University in Rome in 1962 and wrote his dissertation on Cardinal John Newman. For 22 years he taught courses on the New Testament at the University of Missouri.

After sabbatical studies in Munich, Germany, Father Stangl served American troops at more than a half-dozen military bases in Germany for nearly 11 years. Upon his return to the United States, he settled in North Carolina and served as Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Rocky Mount and St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Chapel Hill. Afterwards, he continued to serve as Sacramental Minister to the Catholic parishes of St. Peter the Fisherman in Oriental, St. Joan of Arc in Plymouth and Holy Trinity in Williamston.

Father Stangl's funeral Mass was celebrated by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Rocky Mount, with burial at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Cemetery in Newton Grove.

## Sisters Say "Thank You!"

▶▶ Thank you, on behalf of the Sisters serving in the Diocese of Raleigh, for your generous contributions to the Annual Religious Retirement Collection 2007. This year's total was \$201,467.60. We are indebted to you for continuing to support the retired Religious Women and Men throughout the United States. We assure you of our prayers of gratitude and theirs'. May our good God reward you in whatever way is best for you.

—Sr. Mary Jean Korejwo, S.N.D



## Four Religious Women Celebrate Jubilees

▶▶ Four Religious women marking milestones of dedicated service to God and His people were recognized Feb. 2 at a Jubilee Mass celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Raleigh. Sister Maxine Tancraitor, C.D.P., with 60 years of service, and Sisters Monique Dissen, I.H.M., Edna English, D.W., and Attracta Kelly, O.P., each with 50 years of service, were joined by family and friends at the Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge. In his homily, Bishop Burbidge expressed profound gratitude to the four women for their "powerful example, authentic witness and generous service."

"In your Consecrated Life," the Bishop said, "you have used your gifts, talents and expertise as teacher, nurse, attorney, counselor, administrator and servant to respond effectively to the pastoral and spiritual needs of the Lord's people, especially those in need. How blessed we are for your presence in our Diocese!"

▶ Read more about the Sister Jubilarians in the Jan/Feb NCC, available online at [www.nccatholics.org](http://www.nccatholics.org).



Left to right: Sister Maxine Tancraitor, Sister Attracta Kelly, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman, Sister Edna English, Sister Monique Dissen.

*For a Suitable Training in Holiness...*

**AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY**

**Institute for Pastoral Theology**



**NOW ACCEPTING  
APPLICATIONS FOR  
FALL 2008 CLASSES IN**

**Columbia,  
South Carolina**

Diocese of Charleston

**Application Deadline:  
April 1, 2008**

## For More Information

**Toll Free: 866-866-1100**

**Email: [ipt@avemaria.edu](mailto:ipt@avemaria.edu)**

**Web: [www.ipt.avemaria.edu](http://www.ipt.avemaria.edu)**

## MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

### Our Commitment

- ◆ Theological Education – Formation of Mind
- ◆ Spiritual Formation – Conversion of Heart
- ◆ Pastoral Orientation – Prudential Wisdom

### Format

- ◆ One Weekend a Month
- ◆ August – May
- ◆ Three-Year Cycle





## Panel Debates Doctors' Role in Executions

►► The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi in Raleigh hosted a distinguished panel of experts who debated the role of physicians in carrying out executions. The event was titled "Doctors in the Death Chamber: A Panel Discussion to Address the Collision Between Law, Ethics, and the Authority of the State."

The panel consisted of five members: James P. Cooney III of Womble Carlyle Attorneys at Law; Kathleen M. Joyce Ph.D.; Liz Kanof, Md., past president of the N.C. Medical Board and Medical Society; Paul Stam, minority leader of the NC House; and Colin Willoughby, a Wake County District Attorney. Andrea Weigl of The News and Observer moderated the panel, which was organized by The Franciscan Coalition for Peace and Justice.

Megan Nerz, director of The Coalition, opened the discussion by stating the Church's position on the death penalty: "... as a consequence of the possibilities which the state has for effectively preventing crime, by rendering one who has committed an offense incapable of doing harm - without definitely taking away from him the possibility of redeeming himself - the cases in which the execution of the offender is an absolute necessity are very rare, if not practically nonexistent." *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2nd Edition.

Weigl then took the floor. At the heart of the dialogue is the ongoing debate over whether it is ethically appropriate for physicians to be a part of death-penalty executions. This issue is part of a larger,

ongoing battle between the state legislature, medical board, inmates and prison administrators.

Joyce summed up her position against physician participation in executions by stating that such participation removes the element of patient autonomy and erodes the basic nature of the doctor-patient relationship.

"If a physician's role is to preserve life," Joyce stated, "then taking part in an execution would be highly unethical."

Stam, on the other hand, alluded to

**This issue is part of a larger, ongoing battle between the state legislature, medical board, inmates, and prison administrators.**

statistics showing "75 innocent people are saved by every execution." His figures were challenged by Cooney, who argued that the methodology used in the studies was flawed, and went on to say that states without the death penalty actually have lower homicide rates, and that the reason is simple.

"There is a limited pool of money available [for law enforcement] and when it is applied in one place, other areas will suffer," Cooney said.

The death penalty in North Carolina is currently in a holding pattern due to a series of challenges to its protocol. Of essential importance to this debate is the

February decision by the Council of State that mandates a physician "must monitor a condemned inmate's 'essential body functions' during an execution and contact prison officials if the inmate is showing signs of undue suffering." The language at issue is whether a doctor must be merely present without seeing the execution take place, or if the doctor must participate by viewing and taking part in the mechanics of the act itself.

This procedural change directly contradicts the ethical protocol of the NC Medical Board, which has stated it will discipline doctors who participate in executions. In March, prison officials sued the State Medical Board when doctors refused to comply with execution protocol for this reason.

Willoughby feels this issue comes down to a matter of legality.

"Physicians are a small subset of professionals that the public does not vote for," he said. "This group should not be allowed to make rules that trump a governing board."

In the face of public opinion polls that show as many as 75 percent of Americans support the death penalty, the Catholic Church's position remains strong. Along with other churches, including American Baptists, Episcopalians and Presbyterians, the Catholic bishops in this country stand firm in their stance against the death penalty. They argue that it is most consistent with the example that Jesus gave to us and that energies would be best spent on preventing violent crime and revitalizing the rehabilitation system itself.

— Amanda Cadran

## Deaneries Celebrate Rite of Election

►► The Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion was celebrated Sunday, February 10 (the First Sunday of Lent) at eight parishes in the Diocese, one in each Deanery, with some 600 candidates and catechumens stepping forward to declare their desire for full membership in the Catholic Church.

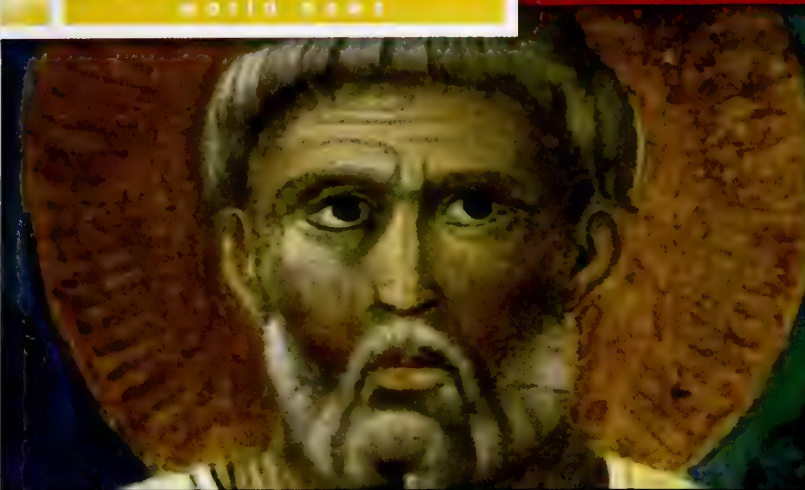
The Rite of Election is a celebration for the unbaptized, called Catechumens, who have been preparing for the three Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. In



the rite, the Church declares them Elect, and so ready to enter their final stage of spiritual preparation for initiation into the Church.

The Call to Continuing Conversion is a celebration for those already baptized who wish to be received into the full communion of the Church and/or who wish to complete their Christian initiation through the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Because their election by God has already been sealed in the waters of their baptism, this rite invites them into a season of spiritual reflection as they enter the final phase of preparation for reception into full communion in the Catholic Church.





Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed a jubilee year of St. Paul from June 28, 2008 to the same date in 2009.

## St. Paul to be celebrated in Turkey

**C**oordinators of the jubilee year of St. Paul say that Turkey will have a strategic role during the commemoration, since Tarsus was the birthplace of the saint.

Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed a jubilee year of St. Paul from June 28, 2008, to the same date in 2009, marking the 2,000th anniversary of the apostle's birth.

The Church in Turkey is preparing "with spirit and a special determination they derive from feeling 'one' with the apostle born in Tarsus."

According to Bishop Luigi Padovese, of Anatolia, Turkey, "St. Paul can be considered the apostle of Christian identity, in an era like today when any type of religion can be embraced, in a moment in which the many paths toward God are ranked on the same level."

The Turkish episcopal conference is considering the program for the celebrations. The bishops already planned a letter to the faithful of the various rites as well as a pilgrimage to Rome.

"The bi-millennium will serve also to call the attention of the

church to the Christian minority communities in Turkey, making them aware of the situation," added Bishop Padovese.

One of the first goals for Catholics is to obtain permission from the Turkish authorities in Tarsus to make a permanent place for Christian worship to accommodate the pilgrims who will arrive from around the world.

To date, there is only one church-museum and it lacks a cross. To use the building for liturgy, previous permission must be obtained and payment must be given to the civil authorities.

"The authorities of Tarsus," Padovese said, "have mixed sentiments: They are aware of the importance of the city for Christians; they are proud to be fellow citizens with St. Paul. But at the same time, they show perplexity and discomfort when it comes to handling a situation implying religious tourism with special demands." - ZENIT



►► The Diocese of Raleigh is making plans to celebrate the jubilee year of St. Paul. Watch [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org) for details.

## what in the world? the top-10 Catholic News events this month

**1 Holy See gets a new ambassador**  
The U.S. Senate confirmed President Bush's nomination of Mary Ann Glendon as the U.S. ambassador to the Holy See.

**2 High hopes for athletes**  
Pope Benedict XVI shared his hopes that soccer players and organizations can increasingly become tools to educate youth about values.

**3 Anniversary visit**  
Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople will visit Pope Benedict XVI in Rome to mark the 90th anniversary of the Pontifical Oriental Institute.

**4 Blair commits to faith**  
The Holy See recently welcomed Tony Blair, the former prime minister of the United Kingdom, into full communion with the Catholic Church.

**5 A popular place**  
A recent report shows that, in 2007, almost three million pilgrims participated in public gatherings with Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican.

**6 Borderless faith**  
A signal from a new Catholic radio station in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, has been picked up by listeners along the U.S. border. Religious leaders in both countries believe this to be proof that faith has no borders.

**7 The ultimate sacrifice**  
In 2007, 21 people involved in ministry suffered violent deaths. Last year's list of 21 pastoral workers includes 15 priests.

**8 Seeking justice**  
Christians in Orissa, India, are seeking justice after an attack by nationalist Hindu extremists. The damage is estimated to include 53 churches, five convents, four priests' residences, seven youth hostels, two minor seminaries and more than 120 businesses and 500 homes.

**9 Irish vocations**  
Irish Cardinal Sean Brady of the titular Church of Sts. Cyricus and Julitta has announced that 2008 will be the 'year of vocations' in Ireland. Cardinal Brady, new to his assignment, is focused on the vocations of all Christians.

**10 Translate no more**  
The committees working for the new English translation of the Roman Missal say that the end of the project is in sight. All of the text and rubrics for the celebration of Mass will be more accessible to English speakers.







# Frame of Faith

Worth more than  
a thousand words



I remember getting scolded by my grandmother at a very young age for what she considered the mother of all profane utterances – taking our Lord's name in vain. "Oh my G \_ \_" wasn't followed by a bar of soap and a lashing. However, she made it very clear that I shouldn't be verbally disrespecting God – no matter what.



There were a couple of other instances in my youth where my grandparents rebuked my actions. Whether it was wearing jeans to Saturday-night Mass or chewing gum beforehand, I would get the usual lecture; then I would politely nod and just go about my business. I will admit, I felt annoyed at times, but I just took it for face value – that their generation and mine were worlds apart, and that their ways were a bit rigid and old-fashioned.

It wasn't until long after my grandfather died that I started to grow deeper in my faith. It was then that I came to the realization that it wasn't that my grandparents were "being old-fashioned," but that they were only trying to protect us and

**Today, when I visit my grandmother or look at a photo of her and Grandpa as a couple, I am reminded of, and thankful for, the guidance they gave me.**

help us in our faith formation. And I was going to later find out that their watchful eyes and "rigid" instruction had actually planted a seed, which would soon grow into something so valuable.

Today, when I visit my grandmother or look at a photo of her and Grandpa as a couple, I am reminded of, and thankful for, the guidance they gave me.

Indeed, the greatest gifts our ancestors have

given are not found among the mothballed heirlooms that crowd our closets, but in the intangible gifts of our Catholic faith and tradition.

Like me, perhaps many of you recognize this and think about this gift when you stare at the old photos of loved ones who have died. Does the black-and-white picture merely collect dust and cover a blemish on the wall, or does it remind us to pray for and thank our loving relatives who gave us so much. Perhaps the way in which we adorn their photo can be reminiscent of this incredible gift that our prior generations have given us ...

## Directions:

►► For this project, you will need the following:

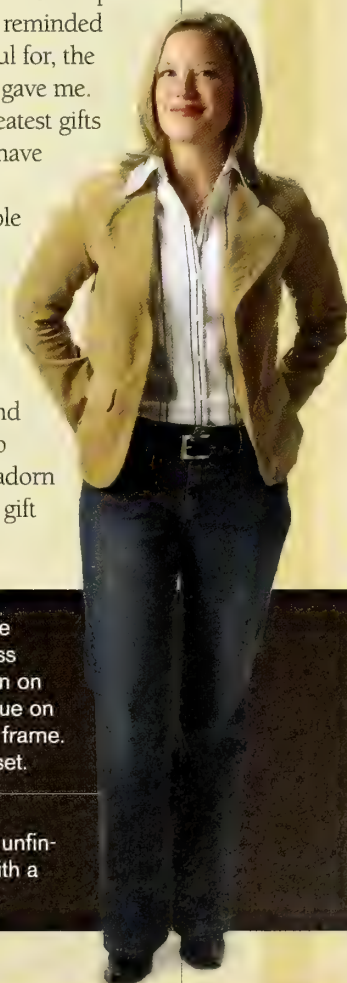
- Vintage or "distressed" 5x7" picture frame
- Assorted crucifix or cross pendants (can be purchased at Catholic bookstores or online)
- Small- to medium-sized wire cutters
- Jewelry or metal glue (follow directions on tube – some are resin with hardener)



►► Begin by using the wire cutters to remove the loops/rings from the selected crucifix/cross pendants. Arrange the pendants in any fashion on the picture frame. Apply small drops of the glue on the back of the pendants and gently place on frame. Wait a couple of hours for glue to harden or set.

## Other Ideas:

►► Create your own vintage frame. Give an unfinished frame a distressed look by gashing it with a straight bladed screwdriver before staining it.





## things to do:

**7th annual Divine Mercy Celebration**, Sunday, March 30. Mass at 4p.m. at St. Thomas More, Chapel Hill. Just Life Speaker Series~Justice and Reconciliation

The Just Life Speaker Series continues at 7p.m. Wednesday, April 2, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Raleigh. Our speaker for session 6 is Fr. Steve Bossi, CSP of the Paulist Office of Reconciliation. He will speak on the theme Justice and Reconciliation. The program format consists of an introduction of the speaker and host group, a talk by the presenter, a Q&A session followed by fellowship. The program is open to all.

**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour**, 7-9 p.m., May 2 at Holy Family Church in Elizabeth City. The VHH is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. The VHHs are open to everyone, but they are certainly unique opportunities for men and women discerning a church vocation

to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment. Next month's VHH will be held on June 6 at Sacred Heart Cathedral

**Connections**, April 4-6 at Camp Kanata, 13524 Camp Kanata Road, Wake Forest, NC 27587, is a weekend retreat for 9th - 10th grade youth. Often referred to as the best-kept secret in Youth Ministry, this retreat focuses on community building, spiritual growth, self-esteem and relationships with family, friends and God. The retreat involves low ropes courses and other physical challenge activities. For more information contact Mike Hagarty at (919) 821-9770 or Hagarty@raldioc.org.

**St. Mary Church, Wilmington**, is hosting its annual **Spring Dance** on Saturday, March 29, from 7-11 p.m. in Tileston auditorium. A dance lesson will precede the main attraction; music by The Riverside 8. Tickets (\$15 each) are available at the church office and bookstore (412 Ann St.) or by calling (910) 799-0164. All proceeds will go to St. Mary's Tileston Outreach programs.

**The Catholic Alumni Club of Raleigh** provides a friendly setting for single

### March/April Readings

#### Sunday, March 23

*Solemnity of Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of the Lord*  
Acts 10:34a, 37-43  
Col 3:1-4  
Jn 20:1-9

#### Sunday, March 30

*Solemnity of the Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday*  
Acts 2:42-47  
Pt 1:3-9  
Jn 20:19-31

#### Sunday, April 6

*Third Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 2:14, 22-33  
1 Pt 1:17-21  
Lk 24:13-35

#### Sunday, April 13

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
1 Pt 2:20b-25  
Jn 10:1-10

#### Sunday, April 20

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 6:1-7  
1 Pt 2:4-9  
Jn 14:1-12

#### Sunday, April 27

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 8:5-8, 14-17  
1 Pt 3:15-18  
Jn 14:15-21

Catholics to meet and develop friendships with people who share their faith. CAC offers a wide variety of activities, including **dances, house parties, evenings of fine dining** at local restaurants, **sports** and much more. CACs also offer **Masses** and **retreats** for their members. **Community volunteering**, an essential element of Catholic life, can be found in all CACs. Whether it be relaxing at the **theater** or enjoying a good **concert, cultural events** are another stipend of CAC clubs enjoyed by all. For the sports-oriented CAC **volleyball, golf, tennis, and hiking** events provide the combination of low-intensity competition with friendly interaction: a

great way to meet, greet, compete and eat. While CAC is not a matchmaking organization, it does provide ample opportunities to socialize and date, and many marriages result from these interactions. CACs allow those who do not feel called to marriage to pursue their interests with other Catholic singles; there is no pressure to marry. Full membership is open to all men and women who are at least 21 years old, single, Catholic, free to marry in the Church, with a two- or four-year college degree or equivalent. Membership is also open to non-college graduates at the Associate Member level. For more information contact CAC, PMB #321, 8311-105 Brier Creek Pkwy., Raleigh, NC 27617.



### Upcoming events at Avila Retreat Center

711 Mason Road, Durham 27712. To register or for more information, call (919) 477-1285.

►► **Life, Loss & Healing**, March 28-30, Friday 8:30 a.m. - Sunday 11 a.m. We have all lost someone or something. In addition to the death of

loved ones, we may lose health, relationships, pets, jobs, homes and even a childhood. This ecumenical workshop is an opportunity to explore the losses in our lives in a safe, confidential and accepting setting. This is not a weekend for quiet reflection, but rather an opportunity to experience the intensity of feelings and learn safe ways to express them. Contact: Nancy Mullins, workshop leader at (413) 268-7342 or DavidandNancy@Mullins.info.



## your church at your fingertips

- breaking, detailed diocesan news
- complete events calendar
- podcasting ➤ parish links
- Bishop's weekly gospel reflections - video and print versions

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

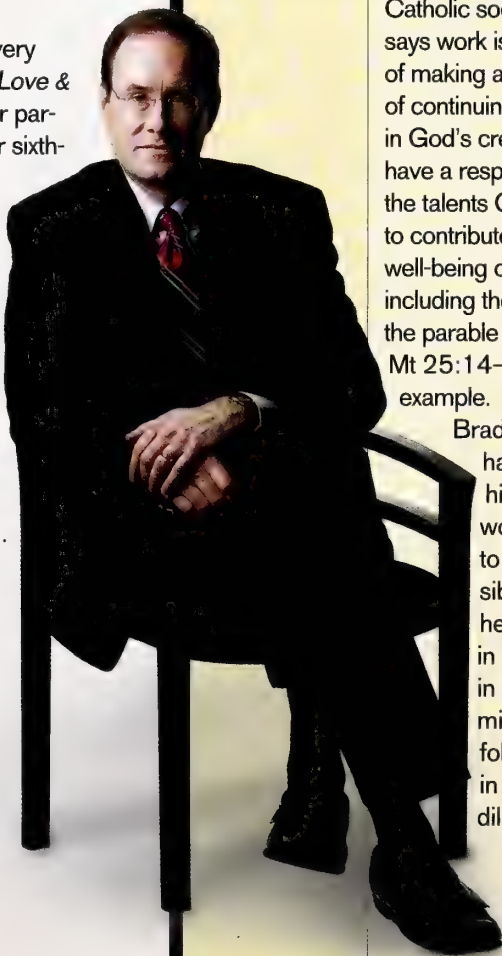
**Encountering and Sharing God's Word (for Small Groups and Individuals)** offers a method for discovering God's active presence in the Scriptures. 9am-noon April 5, at the Newman Catholic Student Center, 218 Pittsboro St., Chapel Hill, is the fourth workshop in a five-part series presented and facilitated by Fr. Jude Siciliano, OP. Registration is \$30 per session.

**Catholic Golden Age** will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 6, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Fallon Center, 2718 Overbrook Drive, Raleigh. Call Mary Ruth at 217-9580 or Michaeline at 832-2974 regarding the meeting, as well as info on our 5:30 p.m. dinner get-togethers every third Thursday of the month throughout the year.

**Family Honor** will be presenting two very special family programs in April. *"Real Love & Real Life"* is for eighth-graders and their parents and *"Changes & Challenges"* is for sixth-graders and their parents. The purpose of both programs is to explore God's special gift of human fertility, sexuality, the virtue of chastity and the beauty and wonder of growing up. The material is grounded in Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body and taught in an age-appropriate way.

**"Changes & Challenges"** will be presented at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Fayetteville on April 4 and 11. To register or for more information, call Beth O'Leary at (910) 323-2410 or email [bolea@stpatnc.org](mailto:bolea@stpatnc.org).

**"Real Love & Real Life"** will be presented at St. Francis Catholic Church in Raleigh on April 18 & 19. To register or for more information, call Christine Miesowicz at (919) 847-8205 or email [Christine.miesowicz@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Christine.miesowicz@stfrancisraleigh.org).



## my wife is a stay-at-home mom I'm jealous



Brad has been married to Marie for 12 years; they have 3 children.

**Q** When Marie was pregnant with our oldest, she decided that she'd prefer to stay home with the children and I agreed. I thought it was a great idea — I have a good job and am able to financially support us. For the last few years, however, I've been struggling. I just don't like what I'm doing anymore, maybe I never really did. I don't get any sense of fulfillment in this work. I've often felt almost jealous of Marie because she has, I think, the important "job" in our family and seems very fulfilled. I understand that I have a responsibility to take care of my family, and I will gladly do so. But I've also always felt called to do something else. I figured I could wait until the kids are grown, but the stress is really getting to me. — Brad

**A** Catholic social teaching emphasizes that the family is the central social institution and must be supported and strengthened. However, Catholic social teaching also says work is more than a way of making a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. Thus, we have a responsibility to use the talents God has given us to contribute to the overall well-being of the community, including the family. Read the parable of the talents in Mt 25:14–30 for a perfect example.

Brad is more than happy to support his family, but he would at least like to explore the possibility of whether he may be called in another direction in his career. Brad might consider the following approach in dealing with his dilemma:

Although it may not be prudent

to simply walk away from your job when you have a family to support, it is important to discern how God is calling you.

- Realize that this discernment could take awhile.
- During this discernment, pray for the grace to joyfully, lovingly and thankfully go about your daily work.
- In your discernment, through prayer, open yourself to God's direction. If you are truly called to different work, God will help direct your path.
- Discernment may require education, information gathering and contacting people in your area of interest.

Patience is the key. Even if you are not happy at work at the moment, you are there for a reason, and you must trust God's plan. When the time is right, you will know it, and God will make the necessary resources available to you.

Embrace the joy of the journey.

— Tim Ryan



# Missionary Wellspring

## Sacred Heart, Whiteville

immigrants, though," Father Marcos says, "our parish is growing because people already in the area are coming back to church."

Father Marcos praises the generosity and the involvement of his parishioners in their church, estimating that 60 percent of the parish's members participate in some kind of ministry.

"I tell them, 'I know how to pray. I don't know how to do much else,' and the people volunteer their time and talent for everything that's needed."

As an example, he takes the interviewer inside the church, which has recently been remodeled, and points out the beautifully finished hard pine floor of the sanctuary. The flooring company donated the materials in appreciation of the Latino parishioners it employs, and the workers installed the floor free

of charge. The pastor credits the high rate of participation, in part, to the fact that "everything about

the operation of the parish is in the bulletin. When you are transparent, people trust, and when they trust, they get involved."

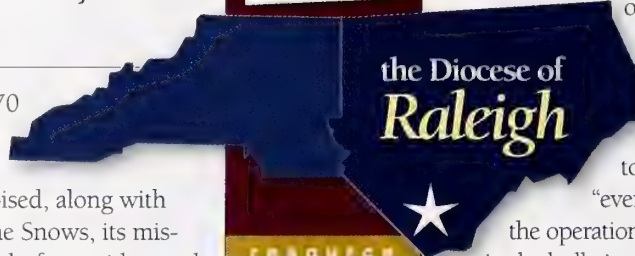
In turn, the pastor has complete trust in his flock as they face an unavoidable challenge. "We are going to need a new church," Father Marcos says, "but we don't want to hurry. We want the people to be confident in our growth, and ready to move forward."

**O**n Nov. 29, 1936, legendary missionary Father Francis J. Howard, at that time in charge of the mission in Whiteville, NC, assembled all the Catholics in the area for Mass at Whiteville's Masonic Hall. It was the first time all the Catholics in the vicinity had met together: There were about 45.

That number might sound discouragingly small, but in 1936 it was impressive enough to prompt Bishop William Hafey to write the Catholic Extension Society for funds to build a church. That church, "The Chapel of the Sacred Heart," was dedicated by Bishop Eugene McGuinness on Oct. 2, 1938. Thanks to Father Howard and his successors, Whiteville would become a wellspring of missionary activity, shepherding Catholic outposts in Delco, Tabor City, Chadbourn, Elizabethtown, Southport and Shalotte.

This year, Sacred Heart Parish

will celebrate 70 years in its first church, even as it is poised, along with Our Lady of the Snows, its mission to the north, for rapid growth in the near future. "It's inevitable," says Sacred Heart's pastor, Father Marcos Leon-Angulo, noting that Whiteville is roughly 50 miles from two burgeoning centers of commerce, recreation and relocation: Wilmington, NC, and Myrtle Beach, SC. There is an increase in the Latino population as well, a demographic fact of life in eastern North Carolina. "More than the



the Diocese of  
**Raleigh**

**Sacred Heart,  
Whiteville**

302 North  
Lee Street,  
Whiteville, NC  
28472

► Call the  
parish office for  
Mass times:  
**910.642.3895**



# Looking for Answers to Your Estate Planning Questions?



I have questions about my Will.  
How do I make a bequest to the Church?  
Do I need a Trust?  
Will a Charitable Gift Annuity provide me with income for life?  
Can I increase my income and make a gift to my Church?  
Are there benefits to donating stock or real estate?  
What documents do I need to protect myself and my family?

*To request information to help answer these questions,  
fill out the form and check the topics in which you are interested.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date(s) of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send me information on:*

- ☐ Wills
- ☐ Making a Bequest
- ☐ Trusts
- ☐ Charitable Gift Annuities
- ☐ Gifting Securities
- ☐ Gifting Real Estate
- ☐ Documents Needed for My Estate Plan
- ☐ Other (Please list topic) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Debbie Rossi  
Diocese of Raleigh  
715 Nazareth Street; Raleigh, NC 27606  
rossi@raldioc.org

**Visit our Estate Planning Web Site:**

**[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.**

## Celebrate the opening of a most incredible lifestyle!

**NOW  
OPEN!**



Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor  
Servants of the Mother of God

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

109 Penny Road, High Point, NC 27260

NP/NCC/3-08



### Pennybyrn at Maryfield is the toast of the town!

Here at the Triad's newest continuing care retirement community in High Point, you'll find a casual lifestyle rich in fulfillment. You'll love the picturesque setting. The rich tradition of the sponsors — the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God. And the healthy approach to your retirement years.

So here's to new opportunities...new friends...and new peace of mind...here's to your future, at Pennybyrn at Maryfield!

*Visit us today, or call (336) 821-4050 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.*



MOST REVEREND  
MICHAEL F. BURBIDGE  
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL *Diocesan*  
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY *Mass*

FOR COUPLES *celebrating*  
THEIR 25th, 50th, or 50+  
*anniversary* IN 2008

SUNDAY *May 4* 2008  
*Saint Paul* CHURCH  
*New Bern* NORTH CAROLINA 2pm

The Office of Marriage & Family  
[www.dioceseofraleigh.org/anniversary](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/anniversary)



715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

**XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX**

\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514  
95219 P 11 1110  
UNC CHAPEL HILL SERIALS DEPARTMENT 31  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



please recycle



THE MAGAZINE  
THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

April 2008

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

from the Bishop

**In Our Lord  
Jesus Christ,  
We Are Victorious!**

since you asked

**Dear NCC: Is ideology  
corrupting modern  
science and medicine?**

voices in our church

**St. Monica's Prayers  
Were Victorious**

**La Victoria de Cristo,  
Fuerza Para Nuestra Vida**

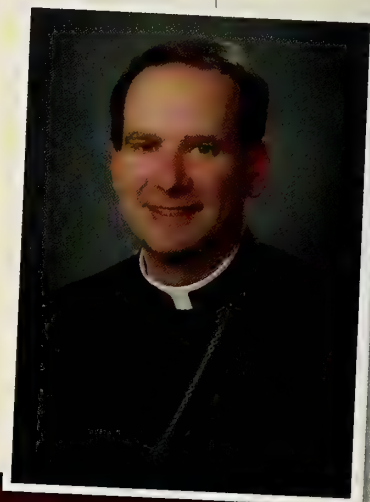
Souls Set Free

in jail

Ernie Abrahamsen works so the Light can shine in the darkness



**A**s I travel throughout our Diocese, I meet so many wonderful people who express their gratitude for all of God's blessings in their lives. At the same time, I meet many people who ask for prayers in light of the suffering they are experiencing and the crosses they are carrying. Some are coping with cancer and other serious medical conditions. Others are emotionally distraught due to the overwhelming pressures present in their lives; still others are battling addictions that have a firm grasp on them at this particular time. Many are also dealing with the hurts that family members and friends have caused in their lives. In reality, all of us who follow in the footsteps of Christ share in His sufferings.



## In Our Lord Jesus Christ, We Are Victorious!

Whenever individuals ask me to bless them and/or to

pray for them, I am deeply edified and inspired by their profound faith and trust in Almighty God. They believe firmly the truths we celebrate in a special way in this Easter Season: Jesus Christ was raised from the dead. He is alive and with us. They find their hope in the promise of Easter: In and through His suffering, death and resurrection, Jesus Christ has destroyed forever the power of the darkness of this world and has raised us up to new life.

In word and deed, we must always strive to echo the words of Saint Paul in the Letter to the Galatians: "I have been crucified with Christ; yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me; insofar as I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who has loved me and given Himself up for me" (Gal. 2: 19-20). When we humbly acknowledge our dependence

**In this Easter season, I encourage you to renew daily your baptismal promises, including your commitment to be His authentic witness in the world. May others experience your confidence in the Lord's abiding love.**

on God, when we listen to the Lord in prayer and regularly come to Him in the Holy Eucharist and the other Sacraments, then Christ is in us, and we celebrate anew His victory. It is my hope and prayer that, throughout this Easter season and always, you will live in joyful hope!

In this Easter season, I encourage you to renew daily your baptismal promises, including your commitment to be His authentic witness in the world. May others experience your confidence in the Lord's abiding love. Seek to comfort those who are suffering and carrying heavy crosses and share with them

the truths we celebrate especially in this sacred season. Know that God will use us as His instruments in bringing life to those in most need. What a powerful way to witness to the Risen Lord and for people to see that we live confidently "by faith in the Son of God who has loved us and given Himself up for us."

May our Risen Lord Jesus bless you and your families with His peace and keep you always in His care.

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh.



cover  
story

## Souls Set Free – in jail

►► Ernie  
Abrahamsen  
works so the  
Light can shine  
in the darkness

Rich Reece



# 12

el hispano Católico

## 16 el hispano católico

►► Almas liberadas  
– en la cárcel

Ernie Abrahamsen trabaja  
para que la luz brille en la  
oscuridad – Rich Reece

## 18 Querido lector de NCC

►► Querido lector: ¿Está  
la ideología corrompiendo  
la ciencia y la práctica  
médica?

– El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

## 19 Obispo Burbidge

►► ¡Con nuestro Señor  
Jesucristo, somos  
victoriosos!

– Obispo Michael F. Burbidge

# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

## from the Bishop

2 In Our Lord Jesus Christ, We Are  
Victorious! – Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

## since you asked ...

6 Dear NCC: Is ideology corrupting  
modern science and medicine?  
– Father Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D.

## from the editor

7 Three Years of NC Catholics  
– Rich Reece



## theology 101

8 Marriage: A sign of Christ's love  
– Rita Thiron

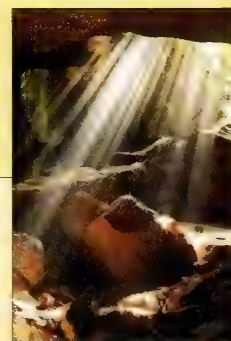
## voices in our church

11 St. Monica's Prayers Were Victorious  
– Msgr. Thomas Hadden

11 La Victoria de Cristo, Fuerza Para  
Nuestra Vida  
– Padre Fernando Torres

## spiritual fitness

20 Purifying Darkness  
Seeing the Light of  
Christ  
– Father Bill Ashbaugh



## work life

29 How to deal with  
a cranky customer  
– Tim Ryan

## parish profile

30 One of the FirstSt. Paul, New Bern  
– Rich Reece



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

April 2008 • Vol. 4 : Issue 3

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Father Tad Pacholezyk  
Father Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

Robert Witchger  
EW Photography (cover)  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vicki Bedard  
DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING

Jillane Job  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER

Lynne Ridenour  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Betsy Miner  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NCCatholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$18 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NCCatholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™, Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NCCatholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NCCatholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NCCatholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730



## Holy Oils Blessed at Annual Chrism Mass

▶▶ The annual Chrism Mass was held Tuesday, March 18 at Saint Michael the Archangel in Cary. The liturgy, celebrated in Holy Week, is a gathering of the Diocesan family, with representatives present from every parish and mission church.

It is at this Mass the Bishop blesses the oil of catechumens, the oil of the sick, and the oil of Chrism. All three oils form an important part of the sacramental life of parish communities throughout the year. At the conclusion of the Mass, the Bishop presents the oils to a member of each community to take back to the parish.

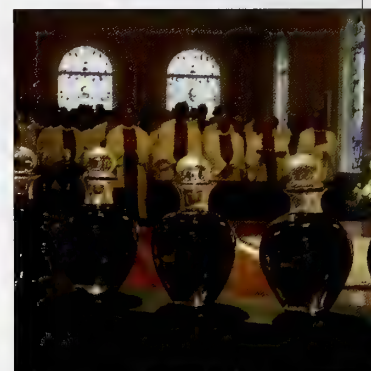
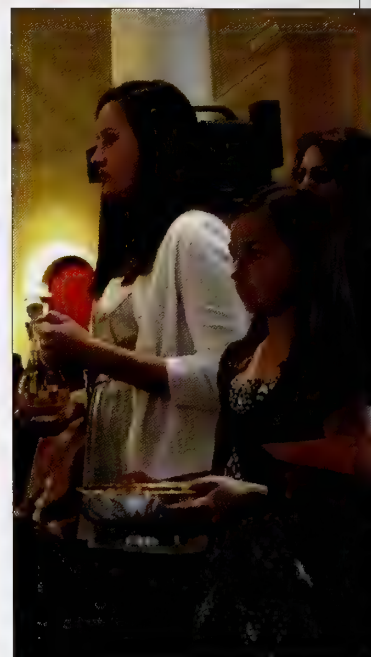
During the Chrism Mass, the Priests serving in the Diocese of Raleigh reaffirmed their com-



mitment to the Church and to Christ in a Renewal of Priestly Commitment. The Mass brings into focus the tradition of the Priesthood and shows the bond of Priests with their Bishop.

Due to an illness, The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge was unable to attend the Mass. Bishop-Emeritus F. Joseph Gosman presided at the liturgy.

In his prepared homily, Bishop Burbidge wrote of "the great love the Lord our God has for each one of us, the love



that sustains us in hope."

He reflected upon several signs of hope that will be manifested by the blessing of the Chrism and oils; noting the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, the Oil of the Sick and the Chrism that will be used to anoint two new Priests for the Diocese in June.

In his homily, Bishop Burbidge addressed his brother-priests: "Today Christ thanks you for your perseverance and fidelity. The People of God, by their presence here today, reflect their great esteem and reverence for the Priesthood, and assure you, dear brothers, of their constant prayerful support."

Photography by Robert Witchger

## Wedding Anniversary Mass Set for Two Dates

▶▶ The Second Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will be celebrated this spring at two parishes in the Diocese of Raleigh with The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge presiding. The Masses will mark milestone weddings of couples married 25 years, 50 years and beyond in 2008.

This celebration in the Diocese is a way of "lifting up the sacred vocation of marriage and to focus on the importance of this vocation for the life of our Church and our society." More than 300 couples attended the 2007 ceremony, with 136 couples married for 50 years or more.



To make this year's anniversary recognition available to more of the faithful, two Masses have been scheduled. The first will be celebrated at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Raleigh on Sunday, April 27. The second will be at Saint Paul Church in New Bern on May 4. Both Masses will begin at 2 p.m. A reception with refreshments will follow each Mass and family members are welcome.



## New Director of Evangelization and Catechesis Appointed

► Bishop Michael F. Burbidge has announced the appointment of Sister Rose Marie Adams, I.H.M., to the position of Director of Evangelization and Catechesis.

Sister Rose is currently the Administrator of the Church Ministry Institute in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, a position she has held since 2001. The Institute is a three-year certificate program that provides adult Catholics with the opportunity to grow in their faith and deepen their skills and

commitment to ministry in the Church.

Sister Rose holds a B.A. Degree in Theology from Immaculata University, an M.A. Degree in religious studies from St. Charles Seminary and an M.A. Degree in Christian spirituality from Creighton University. She also has certification in spiritual direction and retreats and in liturgy.

Prior to her position in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Sister Rose served as principal of two Catholic elementary schools. She has conducted numerous workshops and retreats throughout the Eastern part of the U.S.

"I am pleased to welcome

Sister Rose to our Diocese," Bishop Burbidge said. "She brings a wealth of experience to this position. Our Catholic faithful will recognize her as a talented individual who enthusiastically shares her love for the Lord and His Church."

Sister Rose will begin her ministry in the Diocese of Raleigh on July 1, 2008.

Four other members of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) of Immaculata, Pennsylvania will also be assigned to pastoral ministry in the Diocese of Raleigh: Sister Laura Terese Downing, Sister Mary Margaret Filan, Sister



Helene Therese McGroarty, and Sister Mary Agnes Ryan.

While specific details have not been finalized, two sisters will work in Hispanic ministry, one sister will work in the education apostolate and one sister will be involved in pastoral ministry within a parish setting. The sisters are also scheduled to begin their ministries in the Diocese on July 1. The IHM-Immaculata Order ministered in the Diocese of Raleigh for almost 20 years from 1977 to 1996.

## Courage Apostolate Inaugurated

► Courage is a program designed to assist individuals with same-sex attraction in living a chaste life in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church. The five primary objectives of the Apostolate are chastity, prayer and devotion, fellowship, support and serving as good examples to others.

Courage has the endorsement of the Pontifical Council for the Family and currently has more than 110 chapters and coordinators worldwide. It has become a mainstream Catholic Apostolate helping thousands of men and women find peace through fellowship, prayer and the sacramental life of the Church. Pope John Paul II said of this ministry, "Courage is doing the work of God!"

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge has appointed the Reverend James Fukes, O.F.M. Conv., Pastor of St. Julia Parish in Siler City, N.C., as the Spiritual Director of the Courage Apostolate in the Diocese of Raleigh. The Bishop said that he is confident that the Courage Apostolate will be a source of many blessings for individuals seeking guidance and support. He also is most grateful to Father Fukes for the direction he will provide. Bishop Burbidge will celebrate Mass for those in the Apostolate at a future date and time to be determined.

An additional ministry, Encourage, is available for the pastoral and spiritual needs of parents, siblings, children, and other relatives and friends of individuals who have same-sex attraction. For further information, contact Father Fukes at St. Julia Parish, 210 Harold Hart Road Siler City, NC 27344.

## Bishop Urges Faithful Citizenship

► On March 28, Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge issued the following letter to the faithful of the Diocese of Raleigh:

*"Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, "As our state and nation move towards an important series of elections, I write to encourage you to participate as faithful citizens in the electoral process. As Americans, we live in a free and pluralistic nation, with its many voices and points of view. As Catholics, we are called upon to make moral choices ever faithful to the Gospel. The upcoming elections will provide an opportunity to exercise these moral choices, especially for the protection of the unborn and all human life.*

*"Along with my brother Bishops in the United States, I encourage you to participate in shaping the ethical character of our society through the 'Faithful Citizenship' initiative. The Diocesan website (www.dioceseofraleigh.org) contains a link to the Faithful Citizenship documents developed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. In the coming weeks and months, leading up to the statewide and national elections, I ask that you watch your parish bulletins for more information which will present the Catholic teachings that can be of great assistance as you prepare for 'The Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship.'*

*"Our Catholic tradition has a long history of Catholic Social Teaching that offers several areas for consideration when making moral and ethical decisions in the private and public arena. The pinnacle of all social teaching of the Church is the respect for all human life, from conception to natural death, especially the protection of the unborn.*

*"It is my hope and prayer that you will take advantage of the opportunity we have*

*in our upcoming elections to reflect on our privilege as American citizens and on our obligation as Catholics. I encourage you to build a world where, with God's grace, the respect for all human life and the unborn is paramount; where the dignity of all persons will be protected and issues on behalf of peace and justice will be promoted.*

*"May Our Risen Lord Jesus bless you and your family in this sacred season and always."*

Every four years, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops issues a document on political responsibility, reminding the faithful, "In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation." (Faithful Citizenship 13) The "Faithful Citizenship" document is now available on line. It contains three parts:

- Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: The U.S. Bishops' Reflection on Catholic Teaching and Political Life
- Applying Catholic Teaching to Major Issues: A Summary of Policy Positions of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Goals for Political Life: Challenges for Citizens, Candidates and Public Officials

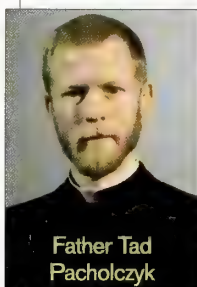
► The "Faithful Citizenship" web site also contains a wealth of resource materials, including information for parish and school leaders, diocesan and community leaders, a Youth Page, a Family Guide and Prayer and Reflection Resources. The web address is [www.faithfulcitizenship.org](http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org).





## Dear NCC: Is ideology corrupting modern science and medicine?

Some physicians and researchers fail to see the important role of ethics and religion in the world of medical science. Others are clearly ready to sideline religion altogether when it comes to discussing the moral values that should guide the conduct of science and scientists.



Father Tad Pacholczyk  
— Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)

Recently I came across some published remarks by Professor Richard Sloan of Columbia University dealing with the relationship between medicine and religion. He notes that even though abortion is a “perfectly legal procedure,” some physicians withhold information about the practice from their patients, claiming their decision is justified by their religious beliefs. He goes on to express his displeasure that some states have enacted conscience clauses, “to permit such religiously motivated malpractice.” He even states that in some parts of the country, patients may have “no alternative to physicians who think that their primary obligation is to honor their religious convictions rather than act in the best interests of their patients.”

His remarks expose a real tension between those who believe modern healthcare should be guided by the values of an ethically-informed conscience, and those who believe that it should be driven by various ideologies. One ideology widely encountered in the field of medicine today promotes the direct taking of human life through abortion, euthanasia and embryo research, and neglects longstanding codes of medical ethics that insist that the first duty of the physician and the researcher is to “do no harm.”

When a physician directly takes the life of another human being, he is, in fact, committing medical malpractice and acting directly against his central healing mission as a doctor. Abortion, by its very nature, can never be compatible with promoting human dignity. It never respects the human person. It is invariably at odds with the best interests of patients. As a component of a broader anti-life ideology, it represents a corrosive force in hospital clinics, research laboratories and other institutions of higher learning. When ideology begins to shun sound ethical thinking rooted in

## Dear NCC

This month with  
Father Tad Pacholczyk

religion, we need to be very concerned.

I remember a story my father once told about the corrosive power of ideology, something he had witnessed first-hand living under communism, and working as a physics professor at the University of Warsaw. To enter the university and study physics, all applicants were required to pass three oral exams, one in physics, one in mathematics and the third in something called “politics and Marxism.” All the exams were held in a single room with different tables for each subject.

One day as my father and another faculty member were interviewing candidates, a young man approached their table. It became immediately clear that he was very intelligent and gifted, and would make an excellent student. They discovered that he had been unable to gain admission to the university for the past two years, because – even though he did brilliantly on the physics and mathematics exams – he couldn’t seem to pass the politics and Marxism exam.

My father and his colleague had seen this before. The communist party members who conducted these interviews would target applicants who might be religious in their outlook, asking them pointed and discriminatory questions they could not answer in good conscience, and then fail them on the exam. Fortunately for the young man, there was a policy that any faculty member was free to move among tables and ask questions during any other department’s entrance examination. So when the hopeful student approached the politics and Marxism table, my father and his friend went over and sat down, one on each side of the communist party member running the interview.

The first question was: “Please explain how the Church is backwards and oppresses people.” The fellow remained silent, since he was a Catholic himself. My father and his colleague stepped in after a moment, and said, “Well, it’s clear that he didn’t grasp the question. Allow me to repeat the question for him: ‘What does Marxism teach about how the Catholic Church is backwards and oppresses people?’”


The fellow was then able to jump in and provide a correct answer by affirming that the ideology of Marxism did teach thus-and-so. The questions and their refinement by my father and his colleague continued,



and the communist party official became visibly agitated. The fellow ended up passing the politics and Marxism exam, along with the physics and mathematics exams, and was admitted to the university. Although the story had a happy ending, the brilliant young man had lost two years of a successful career because of the closed-minded, anti-religious ideologies prevalent in the academic environment of the university under communism.

In academic settings today, we still encounter powerful anti-religious ideologies, as Professor Sloan's comments remind us, and they can result in even more damaging consequences than merely delaying admission to the university. As anti-life ideologies, for example, become tolerated and even promoted as part of medicine, not only do many humans end up being destroyed along the way by abortion, euthanasia, *in vitro* fertilization or embryo research, but those clinicians and researchers who decline to participate in these practices "feel the heat" and worry their careers may be at risk.

To force health care and research to embrace such anti-life ideologies is to warp and eventually corrupt modern medicine altogether. Instances of such corruption have happened only too often in the past as professors, researchers, and physicians have chosen to minimize the demands of an ethical conscience and to adopt seriously misguided ideologies. Codes of medical ethics like the Hippocratic Oath, the Nuremberg Code, and the Declaration of Helsinki came into existence after various misguided ideologies gained a foothold, and the medical establishment suffered a core meltdown, allowing doctors and researchers to participate in crimes against humanity. History sadly reminds us how quickly our human conscience, when deprived of its divine and religious dimensions, becomes untethered in a tumultuous sea of ideological temptations, and can end up on the glide path towards crime and atrocity.

Those who strive to protect the ethical integrity of medicine through conscience protection laws, and those medical professionals who ardently pursue an upright personal conscience by resisting, among other things, maiming or killing actions directed against early human life, provide an essential witness and a critical counterbalance, to powerful and destructive ideologies that are operative in academia and health care today. 

**Send your questions to:**  
**"Since you asked ..."**

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Or:  
reece@raldioc.org

## Three Years of NC Catholics

**In talking with people of faith, I've found, not surprisingly, that God figures prominently in their stories.**



**T**his month marks the third anniversary of *NC Catholics*. In more than 30 issues, we've told the faith stories of Catholics in Eastern North Carolina, and we've barely scratched the surface. I wrote in the first issue of this magazine that every one of us has a story, and telling these stories helps us make sense of our lives.

In talking with people of faith, I've found, not surprisingly, that God figures prominently in their stories. I remember Angela Flynn (*NCC* July/August 2006), talking about the dark time after her first marriage had disintegrated: "Why had God brought me to this place alone? But God never leaves us. God is that friend who doesn't have to speak to be comfortable."

And Shannon Mante (*NCC* April 2007), describing a turning point in his journey to the Catholic Church. He was alone in a hotel room, watching *The Passion of the Christ*. "Suddenly," he said, "I knew that Jesus was the Son of God. I got down on my knees and wept."

Just last month, Father David Brockman talked about his father's initial displeasure with his decision to enter the seminary: "That changed gradually, though, when he realized that I hadn't been influenced by outside forces. At least not by outside *human* forces, but by the Lord."

The people I interviewed for this month's cover story are no exception. Jacqueline Bonk, local director of Project Rachel, for the healing of those who have had or participated in abortions, speaks of God "pursuing those who have distanced themselves from Him, wanting to reconnect." Sister Adria Connors talks about the challenges of aging, one of which is recovering an identity that is based on more than one's work: "What am I, beyond what I do? I'm a child of God; a member of the Body of Christ." And prison minister Ernie Abrahamsen remembers how God first spoke to his life when he became a lector in his parish and began to read the Bible.

In his letter this month, Bishop Burbidge writes of "the promise of Easter: In and through His suffering, death and resurrection, Jesus Christ has destroyed forever the power of the darkness of this world and has raised us up to new life." It has been such a privilege over these three years to encounter this truth every month in the stories told to me by North Carolina Catholics.

**Letters? Stories? You can write me at 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.**

— Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.



# Marriage: A sign of Christ's love

In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul reminded his flock that the love of husband and wife was a mystery, a **sacramentum** (Eph 5:32).

In the love of a man and woman, united in marriage, we see most clearly reflected the indissoluble bond and fruitful love of the bridegroom and his church. Like Christ, man and woman help each other to attain holiness, teach their children to know and serve God, and give witness to the love of the Father among the people of God.

Man and woman minister this sacrament to one another. In the marriage

rite, they exchange vows or consent to give love freely to one another. They promise to be true to each other "in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health ..." until death parts them. How perfectly this mirrors the love of God – unconditional, faithful, steadfast, sacrificial, compassionate. God is love (1 John 4: 8) and wants us to share that love with one another.

Matrimony is a "sacrament of vocation." Too often, we

## Timeline: a look back at marriage

### Old Testament

◀ **Moses** speaks of marriage as a covenant and permits divorce only due to the Israelites' "hardness of hearts."

• **Arranged marriages** until 10 BC when Kingdom of Israel splits.

• **Adultery forbidden** because it endangered family life and the unity of the community.

• **Song of Songs (Solomon)** – a love poem between **two lovers as allegory to the faithful love of God.**

**Perfect relationship** is one man and one woman in love Tobit 3-8.

▶ A spouse calls the other back to **covenant** they have entered Hosea 1-3.



### New Testament

◀ **Paul** sees love of husband and wife as image of Christ and

his Church Ephesians 5: 32.

• **Jesus** Jesus speaks of the permanence of marriage Mt. 5: 31-32; Mt 19: 3-9.

• **A wife can win her husband over** to the Gospel by her conduct 1 Peter 3: 1-7.

### Patristic Period

Christians marry according to their culture – divorce not entirely prohibited.

• **110 Ignatius of Antioch** must get permission from one's bishop to marry.

▶ **Augustine** sees marriage as sacrament like baptism – only once



and permanent.

### 6th-12th centuries

• **529 Code of Justinian** advocated permanent marriage, but law allows for **dissolution** if marriage was not a sacrament.

• **Priests or bishops offer the blessing of the marriage.**

• **Marriages moved** from home to church worship.

• **Priests were asked to see if couples were free to marry.**

• **1000** As instituted by Christ, marriages in Europe become **jurisdiction of the Church.**

Priests offer nuptial blessings and nuptial Masses.

• **1140 John Gratian** "Decretum Gratianum," holds consent forms the marriage, but it could be dissolved if not consummated.

• **Pope Alexander III** (1166-1181) Consent is true marriage requirement.

• **Pauline privilege** no divorces except a non-Christian marriage could be dissolved if one spouse wants to become Catholic.

### 13th-15th centuries

• Marriage becomes recognized as a sacrament.

• **Matter:** reality of living the institution.

• **Form:** spoken consent of the spouses.

• **Hugh of St. Victor** (1090-1141) Consent emphasized rather than consummation only.

• **Duns Scotus** (1266-1308) Couples minister the sacrament in the presence of a priest or deacon.

• **1439 Council of Florence** decrees that marriage is a sacrament, divorce is prohibited, based on teachings of Sacred Scripture.



only associate that word with holy orders or with religious life – one receives a calling to be a priest, deacon or vowed religious. But most profoundly, those of us who have chosen marriage also experience a call. God wants us to participate in His Divine plan and to work for the building of the kingdom.

In welcoming children into our lives, we share in God's work of creation. In every home, we are the first teachers of those children – the good news is preached at the kitchen table; God is praised at bedtime prayers and an understanding of God is perhaps best promot-

ed in quiet conversations in the living room. Most of all, in our generous gift of self to each other, our children and our society witness an incarnation of the selfless love of Christ for humankind.

In the midst of driving to soccer practice, balancing the budget and eating meals on the run, perhaps it is good to be reminded now and then, that marriage is not just based on two people, but is part of a greater whole. Through the church, each "domestic Church" is supported by the grace of Christ – He strengthens our unity, perfects our love and His grace is available "in good times and in bad."

## Nuptial Blessing

**Father, by your power, you have made everything out of nothing. In the beginning, you created the universe and made mankind in your own likeness. You gave man the constant help of woman so that man and woman should be no longer two, but one flesh, and you teach us that what you have united may never be divided.**

## Pope John Paul II on Marriage

**Christian revelation recognizes two specific ways of realizing the vocation of the human person in its entirety, to love: marriage and virginity or celibacy.** Either one is, in its own proper form, an actuation of the most profound truth of man, of his being "created in the image of God."

Consequently, sexuality, by means of which man and woman give themselves to one another through the acts which are proper and exclusive to spouses, is by no means something purely biological, but concerns the innermost being of the human person as such. It is realized in a truly human way only if it is an integral part of the love by which a man and a woman commit themselves totally to one another until death. The total physical self-giving would be a lie if it were not the sign and fruit of a total personal self-giving, in which the whole person, including the temporal dimension, is present: if the person were to withhold something or reserve the possibility of deciding otherwise in the future, by this very fact he or she would not be giving totally.



### 16th-20th centuries

• **Council of Trent** (1545-1563) affirms marriage as a sacrament, defines marriage as a covenant between a man and a woman for the purpose of mutual love and the procreation and education of children.



• **Luther** maintained that marriage is a natural institution, so civil law is more important than Divine law.

• **Calvin** argued that Scripture passages allow two grounds for divorce – adultery and desertion.



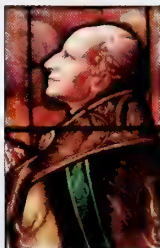
• Even after **Henry VIII** defied the Holy Father over

the issue of divorce (1588), the Anglican Church still prohibited divorce until mid-19th century.



• **1852 Pius IX** Union

between Christians is a sacrament and an indissoluble contract; civil marriage is concubinage, not a sacrament.



• **1880 Leo XIII** reaffirms marriage as a covenant.

• **Vatican II** further develops theology of marriage.

• **Gaudium et Spes** (#48) God is the Author of marriage and has endowed it with various purposes. Marriage is a covenant, not just a contract. Marriage as sign

of mystery of Christ in the world, an ongoing sign of God's presence.

• **Fr. Karl Rahner, S.J.**, holds marriage is an incarnation of Divine love.

• **1969 Rite of Marriage** revised (further revisions 1991).

• **1982 Pope John Paul II** writes **On the Family**.

• **1994 Pope John Paul II** writes a Letter to Families during the Year of the Family.



Spouses are... the permanent reminder to the Church of what happened on the Cross; they are for one another and for the children witnesses to the salvation in which the sacrament makes them sharers. Of this salvation event marriage, like every sacrament, is a memorial, actuation and prophecy: "As a memorial, the sacrament gives them the grace and duty of commemorating the great works of God and of bearing witness to them before their children. As actuation, it gives them the grace and duty of putting into practice in the present, towards each other and their children, the demands of a love which forgives and redeems. As prophecy, it gives them the grace and duty of living and bearing witness to the hope of the future encounter with Christ" (32) From the Apostolic Exhortation *On the Christian Family in the Modern World* (1981)



## Playing it by the rules

### St. Stephen Harding

**Feast day: April 17**  
**Canonized in 1683**  
**Meaning of name: Crowned**

**Claim to fame:** While traveling, Stephen happened upon the Benedictine monastery of Molesme. He met with the abbot, St. Robert, and was so impressed with him that Stephen decided to stay. At the monastery, Stephen became known for his strict adherence to the Rule of St. Benedict. The Rule, observed even today, guided and ordered monastic life. Eventually, St. Stephen and St. Robert left Molesme and went to Citeaux, founding another monastic order later known as the Cistercians. After several years, Stephen was elected abbot by acclamation. He used his position to advocate for his preferred lifestyle, which was absolute poverty. He and his fellow monks did hard manual labor, and Stephen forbade any decoration besides painted wooden crosses. Stephen spent the rest of his life working to expand the order, successfully helping to found ten more monasteries.

**Why he is a saint:** In a time when monastic life required reform and when corruption was common, Stephen worked hard to keep his order from slipping into the pattern. He sacrificed the financial support of several feudal lords so he could keep his order pure, and left Molesme to be true to the Rule of St. Benedict.

**Best quote:** On his death bed, Stephen continued to show his humility and devotion to God. His last words were, "I am going to God as if I had never done any good. If I have done some good, it was through the help of the grace of God. But perhaps I have received this grace unworthily, without turning it sufficiently to account."

— Katie Hicks



## San Esteban Harding

**Día festivo: 17 de abril**  
**Canonizado en 1683**  
**Significado del nombre: Coronado**

**Hechos que lo hicieron famoso:** Mientras viajaba, Esteban llegó al monasterio de Molesme. Se reunió con el abad, San Roberto y quedó tan impresionado con él que Esteban decidió quedarse. En el monasterio, Esteban se hizo conocido por su estricta adhesión a las reglas de San Benedicto. Las reglas, establecidas hacen día guranla vida monastica. Esteban y San Roberto se fueron de Molesme a Citeaux. Después de varios años, Esteban fue elegido abad contra su voluntad. Sin embargo, él uso su cargo para defender su estilo de vida preferido, que era la pobreza

absoluta. Él y sus compañeros monjes hacian trabajos manuales fuertes, y Esteban prohibió cualquier decoración aparte de cruces de madera pintada. Esteban pasó el resto de su vida trabajando para ampliar la orden, ayudando a fundar con éxito diez monasterios más.

**Por qué es un santo:** En una época cuando la vida monastica la corrupción era común, Esteban se esforzaba para evitar que su orden resbalara al patrón. Sacrificó el apoyo financiero de varios señores feudales para mantener su orden pura, y dejó Molesme para ser fiel a las Reglas de San Benedicto.

**Mejor cita:** En su lecho de muerte, Esteban continuó su demostración de humildad y devoción a Dios. Sus últimas palabras fueron "Voy a Dios como si no hubiera hecho nunca nada bueno. Si he hecho algún bien, lo hice ayudado por la gracia de Dios. Pero quizás he recibido esta gracia sin merecerla, sin convertirla suficientemente en algo importante."

## history quiz

**He was the first pope to visit a Jewish synagogue. When was it?**

►► Pope John Paul II visited a Jewish synagogue in Rome, marking the first such visit by a pope in recorded history on **April 13, WHAT YEAR?**

►► James Augustine Healey, who became



**the first Black Roman Catholic bishop in the United States, was born to an Irish planter and a slave on a plantation near Macon, Ga., April 6, WHAT YEAR**

►► The United States' 10th President, John Tyler, who would frequently say, "I can never consent to being dictated to," was sworn into office on **April 6, WHAT YEAR?**

Answers: 1986, 1830, 1841



## St. Monica's Prayers Were Victorious

**F**or April, the writers for *NC Catholics* were asked to write about a victory over difficulties and suffering. I decided to use a booklet written by Father JaVan Saxon about black saints.

In this booklet was a recounting of the life and prayers of St. Monica. Father Saxon wrote this some years ago for African Ancestry Ministry to be used as thought fit. I send it to you for your edification, as an example of a victory achieved through prayer.

►► *St. Monica, an African laywoman, is a saint with whom black women can readily identify, because Monica epitomizes the present day black woman.*

*Saint Monica was born in northern Africa about 331. She was a devout Christian and an obedient disciple of St. Ambrose. Through her patience, gentleness and prayers she converted her pagan husband. To her son Augustine, whom she loved dearly, she gave thorough religious training during his boyhood, only to know the disappointment of seeing him later scorn all religion and live a life of disrepute. Before her death, Monica had the great joy of knowing that Augustine had returned to God and was using his energies to build Christ's Church and that her younger daughter had become a nun.*

*Today many mothers wonder what they did wrong, that their sons and daughters forsake the Church when they reach adolescence. Many women today need the hope that their prayers and tears will be rewarded as were Monica's by the return of their children to the sacraments.*

Augustine, Monica's son, not only returned to the sacraments, but became a great saint and Doctor of the Church. It was he who discovered, after looking for happiness in all the wrong places, that "Our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee." It was a truth his mother had known all along.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden

## La Victoria de Cristo, Fuerza Para Nuestra Vida

**E**l origen del ser humano está marcado por la derrota del maligno, pero está acompañado por la promesa de la victoria futura sobre el mal (Gen. 3,15). Toda la historia de la salvación es el camino para llegar a la victoria definitiva.

En el Antiguo Testamento Dios aparece como el aliado invencible en las guerras contra los enemigos. Las derrotas del pueblo de Israel y sus sufrimientos son vistos como oportunidades para reconocer su miseria moral y las consecuencias de su infidelidad.

Los profetas vislumbraron una victoria espiritual donde Dios vencerá al mal a través de un Mesías, del Hijo del Hombre o del Siervo de Yahvé y al que se unirán todos los justos que han vencido el mal.

En el Nuevo Testamento Cristo aparece como el que ha vencido al maligno e invita a sus discípulos a no tener miedo; con su muerte y resurrección ha vencido al pecado y a la muerte y su gloria se manifestará al final de los tiempos.

El nuevo pueblo de Dios, fortalecido con el triunfo de Cristo, vive desde la fe un combate espiritual, venciendo al mal con el bien y sin separarse del amor de Cristo, para poder alcanzar la corona de los hijos de Dios que compartirán su reino, su banquete y su gloria.

La Iglesia sigue pidiendo a Dios que la Victoria de Cristo ilumine la vida de los que luchan diariamente por vivir en el amor y el respeto en la familia.

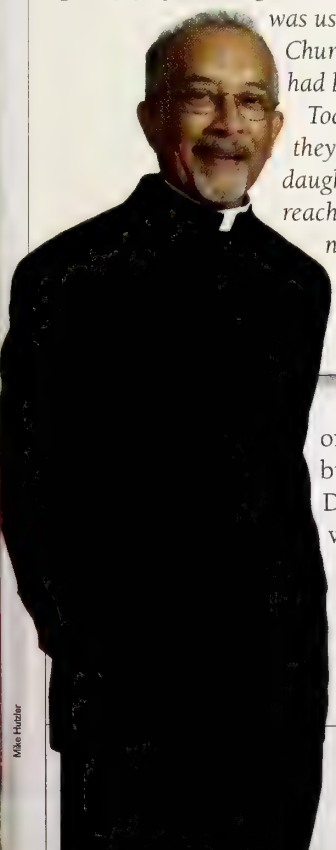
Para que ayude a los que enfrentan las sombras del desempleo, la miseria, la soledad y el abandono social. Para vencer las tentaciones de una vida de consumo vacía, las esclavitudes del alcohol, el sexo, las drogas y las supersticiones.

Para que asista y fortalezca a los que padecen las enfermedades físicas, psicológicas y padecen las batallas espirituales.

Para que nos ayude a vivir la unidad en la Iglesia, la fraternidad y la solidaridad, para que todos respondan al llamado de santidad, sirviendo en la Iglesia y construyendo en el mundo el Reino de Dios.

Cristo ha vencido el mal y todo el que se acoge a Cristo participará de su victoria sobre el pecado y la muerte.

— Padre Fernando Torres







**INNATE**



# Souls Set Free in jail

Ernie Abrahamsen works so the Light can shine in the darkness

NEW HANOVER COUNTY  
& SHERIFF'S PATROL FACILITY

For Ernie Abrahamsen, there are far worse things than being in jail. Driving to the New Hanover County Jail, where he has ministered for seven years, he explains. "Prison," he says, "is a dark place where the light shines. The outside may seem like a place of light, but many of the people there are living in darkness." ►





Raised in the Bronx in New York, Abrahamsen arrived in Charlotte, N.C., in 1957 and began a career in broadcasting. Growing up in the pre-Vatican II Church, Abrahamsen, like most Catholics of the time, had little experience reading the Bible. In his 40s, however, as a parishioner of St. Mark's in Wilmington, he volunteered as a lector. "And reading the Bible, I started listening to its message for the first time in my life, instead of just worrying about doing the right and wrong things. And I started trying to live it. I'm not saying that I always succeeded, but I tried."

That effort led to his prison apostolate. In 2001, at the direction of his pastor, Msgr. Matthew Hendrick, he reported to the New Hanover County Jail and announced his purpose. The warden greeted him enthusiastically.

"Where have you Catholics been?" he said. "We've been waiting for you!" At the time, Abrahamsen was the only prison minister at the jail. Then, in 2006, a new jail facility opened, and worship space was offered to ministers of various faiths. It was a non-Catholic guard, Abrahamsen recalls, who told him, "Ernie! You can have Mass now!"

"The guard's girlfriend was Catholic, so he knew about the importance of the Mass to our faith," Abrahamsen explains. "So last September, Father Marcos Leon celebrated the first Mass ever in the jail. Today we bring the Mass, we bring the sacraments, and we have four people ministering. And the youth in our parish are involved. They design cards for the inmates at Christmas and Easter, and there are plans for the group to actually visit the jail. Jesus visited the houses of outcasts, the kids learn, and we must do the same. Jesus loved everyone, and so must we. So the prison has become almost a mission church of our parish."

On a typical visit, Abrahamsen wheels a cart full of spiritual reading material (much of it contributed by parishes in the Diocese) into one of the men's or women's pods, or cell blocks. He also brings his own letter, a bimonthly compilation of Scripture, humor and reflection. "I don't preach to them in the letter," he says. "I want them to think. So I tell stories about everyday life and tie them in to the Bible



### "Our Lives Are Treasure"

Former auto executive Lee Iacocca, in a *Forbes* magazine article called *How I Flunked Retirement*, wrote, "No one helped me to understand who I am when I don't

have anything to do." Sister Adria Connors, CSC, has dedicated herself

to facilitating that understanding for those facing the changes associated with growing older.

Sister Adria, along with Sister Mary Margaret Weber, CSC, ministers by counseling and retreats through Wellsprings of Wisdom in Raleigh. The mission of Wellsprings is "to offer men and women the opportunity to embrace the aging process as a time of positive transformation and expansion of horizons."

Years ago, as a Director of Catechesis in Florida, Sister Adria lived in a

senior housing development, and was struck by the pervasiveness of depression, alcoholism and isolation among her neighbors. She began conducting focus groups in parishes to find out just what seniors were thinking about. Eventually, she developed a program to teach seniors a new paradigm of the aging process, a way to "thrive, not just exist."

Today, in a variety of retreats, Sister Adria talks about the flawed cultural expectations of aging, expectations which omit ongoing spiritual and human





so they can see how the Bible really mirrors life today. They can ask themselves, 'Do I want to be a Saul or a Paul? A Cain or an Abel?'"

In the pod, the inmates will gather in a common area to hear Abrahamsen, Bible in hand, tell them that their situation need not be a disaster – it can be an opportunity.

"Prison," he says, "is a place to stop and listen. Ironically, prison can set you free, while many who are free are living in prisons of their own making – prisons like greed, hatred, addiction." He asks them to think about the actions that resulted in their incarceration and the impact those actions have had on their families and loved ones. "That's usually when the tears come," he says later.

"When you read the Bible or the other literature I've brought," he tells the prisoners, "think of three words: listen, learn, live. Listen to what the words say; learn what they teach and live them in your

interactions with each other."

When Abrahamsen is through speaking, he and the prisoners form a circle and join hands for prayer. Afterwards they can sign a prayer list, while Abrahamsen distributes the reading material and speaks with the inmates individually. "I don't come for the Catholics only," he says, "although I hope all the inmates will learn more about our Catholic faith." It's clear from the attention with which they listen and the eagerness with which they approach Abrahamsen that his words have an impact.

"I don't think everyone looks at prisons the way I do," Abrahamsen says. "So many of the prisoners I visit are good people who made stupid mistakes. Still because of those mistakes they now have a chance to listen to the Lord – something they never bothered to do when they were outside."

"I think jail is a place where I can clearly see God."

development. She urges retreatants to think about the ways their life experiences have shaped who they are today. "What values, what aspects of my faith, have seen me through?" she asks.

"We have all had incredible lives," she says. "Our experience is our treasure, given to us by the grace of God." Mining the meaning of one's experiences and claiming the values by which one has lived allow one to live, at last, "from the inside – our spiritual core – to the outside. Not, as when we were younger, from the outside – material expectations

of success – to the inside."

Once we have claimed that spiritual center, we are called by our Baptism to mission. "We are summoned at every age, and especially as we grow older," Sister Adria explains, "to proclaim justice, to see the holy in the everyday, and to gift future generations with the treasure of our lives."

►► To learn about the programs at **Wellsprings of Wisdom**, call 919-846-3578 or go to [www.womengather.org](http://www.womengather.org).

## "I See Miracles"

Jacqueline Bonk knows firsthand that the unborn are not the only ones affected by the tragedy of abortion. She is the Raleigh director of Project Rachel, a ministry that assists women and men who have been wounded by abortion and seek truth and healing. "The profound thing about this ministry," she says, "is that it crosses so many demographics. We see women and men, ranging in age from 16 to 75."

The details of every story are unique. A 45-year old mother, now an empty nester, has kept a sad secret for decades and suddenly can't hold it in anymore. An elderly man becomes a widower; he and his wife had never talked about the abortion they agreed upon as young people, but now the weight is too much to bear alone.

"People involved in an abortion typically feel guilt and shame," Bonk explains. "The guilt can be healed [by contrition and the Sacrament of Penance] but the shame often remains. Project Rachel helps people deal spiritually and psychologically with their actions in a loving, non-judgmental, hopeful context. The goal is reconciliation – with oneself, God, family and the aborted child."

"The ministry takes perhaps the worst thing that has happened to someone and allows God to turn it into healing." Clients of Project Rachel go through all the classic stages of grief: denial, at first, and eventually acceptance. "We don't argue or judge," Bonk says. "Our clients were distanced from God but, through our ministry, they discover that God is pursuing them, that He wants to reconnect with them and reconnect them with their child."

Bonk acknowledges that there are many tears in this process. "But when you're able to participate in a ministry where you see miracles, it's not a service, it's a gift."



►► For more information go to [www.projectrachelinc.org](http://www.projectrachelinc.org), or call 919-852-1021, or e-mail [projectrachel@nc.rr.com](mailto:projectrachel@nc.rr.com). All contacts are strictly confidential. For the next Retreat Weekend, 6 p.m. Friday, May 16; 2 p.m. Sunday, May 18, register by May 7.





Ernie  
Abrahamsen  
trabaja para que  
la luz brille en la  
oscuridad

# Su párroco le dijo, Almas liberadas — en la cárcel

**P**ara Ernie Abrahamsen, no existe peor lugar que la cárcel. En camino a la cárcel del Condado de New Hanover, donde él ha servido por más de siete años, nos explica: -La cárcel, es un lugar oscuro donde brilla la luz. El mundo exterior puede ser un lugar de luz, pero muchas de las personas que están allí viven en las tinieblas.

Abrahamsen, creció en el Bronx de Nueva York, y en 1957, se mudó a Charlotte en Carolina del Norte, donde comenzó su carrera en difusión. Él, al igual que la mayoría de los católicos de esos tiempos, creció en la iglesia previa al Vaticano II por lo cual tenía muy poca experi-

encia leyendo la Biblia. Sin embargo, a sus 40 años, se ofreció como lector voluntario en la parroquia de St. Mark en Willmington -Al leer la Biblia, escuché su mensaje por primera vez en mi vida, en vez de solo preocuparme por hacer lo correcto o lo incorrecto, comencé a vivirla, y no estoy diciendo que siempre es así, pero lo

intento.

Su esfuerzo lo llevó a su apostolado en la prisión. En el 2001, bajo la dirección de su párroco, el Monseñor Matthew Hendrick, manifestó su intención para la cárcel del Condado de New Hanover. El alguacil lo recibió con mucho entusiasmo: -¿Dónde han estado los católicos todo este tiempo? Comentó - ¡Hemos estado esperando por ustedes! En aquel entonces, Abrahamsen era el único ministro en la cárcel, entonces en el 2006, abrieron una nueva sede para la cárcel, con más espacio para otras religiones también. Un guardia de otra religión le dijo -¡Ernie, Tu Misa es ahora! -recuerda Abrahamsen.

-La novia del guardia es católica, entonces él sabía el significado de la Misa



## "Nuestra vida es un tesoro"

El anterior director Lee Iacocca, en un artículo de la revista Forbes titulado "como reprobé mi jubilación" escribió "nadie puede ayudarme a entender quien soy cuando no tengo nada que hacer"

La Hermana Adria Connors, de la Congregatio Sanctae Crucis, se ha dedicado a facilitar este entendimiento a aquellas

personas que enfrentan los cambios asociados con la vejez.

La hermana Adria en conjunto con la Hermana Mary Margaret Weber, CSC, proveen el servicio de terapias y retiros a través de Wellsprings of Wisdom en Raleigh. La misión de Wellsprings es la de ofrecer a los hombres y mujeres la oportunidad de aceptar el proceso de envejecimiento como una transformación positiva y una forma de expandir sus horizontes.

Hace muchos años, la hermana Adria, Directora de Catequesis en Florida, vivía en una urbanización para jubilados y se

impresionó con los altos niveles de depresión, alcoholismo y soledad entre sus vecinos. A raíz de esto, comenzó un grupo en su parroquia para averiguar lo que pensaban los ancianos. Tiempo después, desarrolló un programa para enseñarles a los ancianos un nuevo paradigma del proceso de envejecimiento, una forma de "prosperar y no de solo existir."

Hoy en día, en una variedad de retiros, la Hermana Adria habla sobre las defectuosas expectativas culturales acerca del envejecimiento, la cual omiten el desarrollo espiritual y humano. Ella exhorta a los jubilados a pensar sobre las formas



para nuestra fe —explica Abrahamsen. —En septiembre del año pasado, el Padre Marcos León celebró Misa por primera vez en la prisión, y hoy en día, nosotros llevamos la Misa, los sacramentos, contamos con cuatro ministros, y además los jóvenes de nuestra comunidad forman parte de esto. Ellos elaboran tarjetas para los reclusos durante la Navidad, la Semana Santa y también tienen planeado visitar la cárcel. Jesús visitó la casa de los marginados, los niños aprendieron al igual que nosotros. Jesús nos ama a todos por igual, y nosotros debemos hacer lo mismo, así que la prisión se ha convertido en una misión de la iglesia en nuestra parroquia.

En una visita cotidiana, Abrahamsen escoge entre una selección de lecturas espirituales (mucho de este material es contribuido por las parroquias en la Diócesis) y las coloca dentro de las celdas de estos hombres o mujeres; también trae su propia carta la cual es una compilación quincenal de las Escrituras, de humor y de reflexión. —No les doy un sermón a través de la carta, quiero que ellos piensen por ellos mismos; así que les cuento historias de la vida diaria relacionadas con la Biblia, para que se den cuenta de cómo la Biblia refleja las situaciones de la vida actual para que se pregunten “¿Quisiera ser como Saulo o Pablo? O ¿Cómo Caín y/o Abel?

En las celdas, los reclusos se congregan en un área común para escuchar a Abrahamsen, con la Biblia en mano, y les dice que su situación no es necesariamente un desastre, sino más que todo una oportunidad. —La prisión es un lugar para detenerse a escuchar, la ironía está, en que puedes ser liberado de la prisión,

mientras que muchas personas en libertad son prisioneras de sus propias decisiones; como por ejemplo: la prisión de la codicia, del odio, de la adicción, etc. —Comenta. Además les pide que piensen acerca de las acciones que resultaron en el encarcelamiento, y el impacto de dichas acciones en sus familiares y seres queridos. —Y esta es la parte donde comienzan a brotar las lágrimas —agrega.

—Cuando lean la Biblia u otras de las lecturas que traje, piensen en estas tres palabras: Escuchar, aprender y vivir. Escuchen lo que dicen las palabras, aprendan lo que enseñan, y vivanlas en la interacción con el prójimo —le dice a los prisioneros.

Cuando Abrahamsen termina con su sermón, él junto con los reclusos forman un círculo de oración, luego, firman la lista de oración, mientras que Abrahamsen distribuye el material de lectura y habla con los reclusos individualmente. —No vengo solo por los católicos, espero que todos los reclusos aprendan más sobre nuestra fe —comenta. Es evidente que prestan atención y le demuestran a Abrahamsen con mucho entusiasmo el impacto que produjeron sus palabras.

—No creo que todas las personas entiendan la prisión de la misma manera que yo —dice Abrahamsen —Muchos de los prisioneros que visito son buenas personas que cometieron errores estúpidos. Aun, por esos errores ahora tienen la oportunidad de escuchar al Señor, algo que jamás se molestaron hacer cuando estuvieron afuera.

—Pienso que la cárcel es el lugar donde siento más a Dios.

Una vez reclamado ese núcleo espiritual, recibimos el llamado del Bautismo para trabajar en las misiones. —Recibimos el llamado a cualquier edad, en especial cuando somos mayores —explica la hermana Adria —para proclamar justicia, para ver lo santo de cada día, y para dejarle el legado del tesoro de nuestras vidas a las futuras generaciones.

►► **Para más información acerca de los programas de Wellsprings of Wisdom**, comuníquese por el siguiente teléfono 919-846-3578 o visite la página Web [www.womengather.org](http://www.womengather.org)

## “Veo milagros”

Jacqueline Bonk sabe que los nonatos no son solo los afectados por la tragedia del aborto, ella es la directora del Proyecto Rache en Raleigh (Project Ranchel), un



ministerio que asiste a hombres y mujeres afectados seriamente por el aborto, quienes buscan la sanación. —Lo más profundo de este ministerio, es que afecta a hombres y mujeres de todas las estratos, entre 16 a 75 años de edad.

Los detalles de cada historia son únicos. Una madre de 45 años ha guardado sigilosamente un secreto por décadas, pero de repente no puede ocultarlo más. Un anciano pasa a ser viudo, pero ni él ni su esposa jamás hablaron del aborto que decidieron realizar cuando jóvenes, ahora la carga es muy pesada como para sobrellevarla solo.

—La gente que sufre de un aborto generalmente siente culpa y vergüenza —explica Bonk —La culpa puede ser sanada (mediante al arrepentimiento y el Sacramento de Reconciliación) pero esa vergüenza siempre queda. El Proyecto Rachel ayuda a esas personas a sobrellevar espiritual y físicamente estas acciones en un contexto de amor, sin prejuicios y de esperanza. La meta es lograr la reconciliación con uno mismo, Dios. La familia y con el neonato.

—El ministerio toma, quizás, lo peor que le haya pasado a alguien y permite que Dios lo convierta en sanación. —Los clientes del Proyecto Rachel atraviesan por las etapas clásicas del dolor: la negación y la aceptación. —Nosotros no discutimos ni juzgamos —dice Bonk —Nuestros clientes se distanciaron de Dios, pero con la ayuda de nuestro ministerio, descubrieron que Dios quiere recobrar ese distanciamiento con ellos y que ellos reconecten con su hijo.

Bonk señala que ve muchas lágrimas en este proceso —pero cuando puedes participar en un ministerio donde ves milagros, ya no se trata de un servicio, sino de un regalo.

► **Para más información**, visite el sitio Web en inglés [www.projectrachelinc.org](http://www.projectrachelinc.org) por el siguiente teléfono 919-852-1021 o por el correo electrónico [projectrachel@nc.rr.com](mailto:projectrachel@nc.rr.com) Todos los contactos son estrictamente confidenciales. Los próximos retiros se realizarán el viernes a las 6 pm, el 16 de mayo a las 2pm, y el 18 de mayo. Las inscripciones están abiertas hasta el 7 de mayo.

en que sus experiencias en la vida los han ayudado a formar lo que son hoy. —Qué valores. Qué aspectos de mi fe contribuyeron con ese proceso.

—Todos vivimos vidas increíbles —comenta —nuestras experiencias son nuestro tesoro, brindado por Dios, menos el significado de la experiencia individual y reclamando los valores que nos han permitido vivir, por lo menos, desde el interior, de nuestro núcleo espiritual, hacia el exterior. No como cuando éramos jóvenes, desde el exterior buscando expectativas materiales de éxito, hacia el interior.



# Querido lector de NCC

Por: Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

## Querido lector: ¿Está la ideología corrompiendo la ciencia y la práctica médica?

**A**lgunos médicos e investigadores no logran reconocer el importante papel de la ética y de la religión en el mundo de las ciencias médicas. Otros, inclusive, están prestos a hacer totalmente a un lado la religión cuando se abordan los valores morales que deben guiar el comportamiento de la ciencia y de los científicos.

Hace poco tiempo lei unos comentarios escritos por el profesor Richard Sloan de la Universidad de Columbia referentes a la relación entre la medicina y la religión. El profesor Sloan hace notar que aunque el aborto es un "procedimiento perfectamente legal", algunos médicos retienen información sobre esta actividad en relación a sus pacientes, y que manifiestan que esta decisión está justificada por sus creencias religiosas. Además expresa su descontento por el hecho de que algunos estados han promulgado cláusulas alusivas a la conciencia, "para permitir tales faltas profesionales motivadas por la religión". El profesor Sloan llega a afirmar que en algunas partes del país los pacientes bien pueden "no tener otra alternativa más que los médicos que piensan que su obligación principal es honrar sus convicciones religiosas en lugar de actuar en función de lo que más conviene a los intereses de sus pacientes".

Los comentarios del profesor Sloan revelan una verdadera tensión entre quienes consideran que el cuidado médico moderno debe guiarse según los valores de una conciencia formada éticamente, y aquellos que piensan que debe conducirse en base a diversas ideologías. Una ideología ampliamente difundida en el campo de la medicina en la actualidad promueve el disponer directamente de la vida humana mediante el aborto, la eutanasia y la experimentación con embriones, haciendo a un lado los ancestrales códigos de ética médica que establecen claramente que el primer deber del médico y del científico es "no hacer daño".

Cuando un médico quita directamente la vida a otro ser humano, está, de hecho, cometiendo faltas médicas profesionales y actuando, a todas luces, en contra de su misión suprema como doctor, que es la de sanar. El aborto, por su propia naturaleza, nunca será compatible con el enaltecimiento de la dignidad humana. No respeta a la persona en lo absoluto.

Invariablymente está en contra de los intereses de los pacientes. Como parte que es de una ideología anti-vida aún más extensa, representa una fuerza corrosiva en hospitales, en laboratorios de investigación científica, y en otras instituciones de enseñanza superior. Cuando una ideología empieza a desechar el sólido razonamiento ético que tiene sus raíces en la religión, ha llegado el momento de preocuparnos.

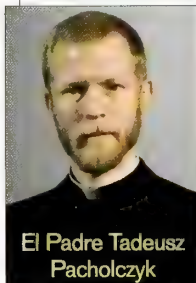
Recuerdo la historia que un día mi padre me contó y que se relaciona con esa capacidad corrosiva de las ideologías, algo de lo que él había vivido de primera mano bajo el sistema comunista, cuando trabajaba como profesor de física en la Universidad de Varsovia. Para poder ingresar a la universidad, todos los solicitantes tenían que aprobar tres exámenes orales, uno de física, otro de matemáticas y el tercero sobre algo que se llamaba "Política y Marxismo". Los tres exámenes se aplicaban en un solo salón y en mesas diferentes para cada materia.

Un día mi padre y otro maestro estaban entrevistando candidatos. Llegado su turno, un joven se acercó. Ellos inmediatamente se dieron cuenta de que era muy inteligente y talentoso, y que sería un excelente alumno. También se enteraron de que no había logrado ser admitido en la universidad en los dos años anteriores debido a que, a pesar de que se había desempeñado brillantemente en los exámenes de física y matemáticas, no había conseguido aprobar el examen de Política y Marxismo.

Mi padre y su colega ya habían sido testigos de eso anteriormente. Los miembros del partido comunista que conducían estas entrevistas ponían la mira en los solicitantes que podrían tener puntos de vista religiosos, les hacían preguntas agudas y discriminatorias que no podrían contestar en buena fe, para luego reprobarlos en el examen. Para fortuna de este joven, existía una norma que establecía que los maestros podían moverse libremente entre las mesas y hacer preguntas cuando cualquier otro departamento estuviera aplicando exámenes de ingreso. Así que cuando el esperanzado muchacho se acercó a la mesa de Política y Marxismo, mi padre y su amigo también lo hicieron y se sentaron uno a cada lado del oficial que haría la entrevista.

La primera pregunta fue: "Por favor explique en qué forma la Iglesia es retrógrada y oprime a la gente". El joven se quedó callado, pues era católico. Mi padre y su colega intervinieron: "Bueno, se ve que él no ha comprendido la pregunta. Permitame repetírsela: "¿Qué es lo que el Marxismo enseña sobre la forma en que la Iglesia Católica es retrógrada y oprime a la gente?"

El joven rápidamente se integró y pudo entonces responder correctamente, afirmando que la ideología del Marxismo enseñaba tal y cual cosa. Las preguntas continuaron y también las precisiones por parte de mi padre y su compañero, hasta que el oficial del partido comunista se puso visiblemente incómodo. El muchacho terminó pasando el examen de Política y Marxismo junto con el de física y matemáticas, y fue aceptado en la universidad. No obstante que la historia tuvo un final feliz, el brillante estudiante ya había perdido dos años



El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

— El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk hizo su doctorado en neurociencias en la Universidad de Yale y su trabajo post-doctoral en la Universidad de Harvard. Es Sacerdote para la Diócesis de Fall River, MA, y se desempeña como Director de Educación en el Centro Nacional Católico de Bioética en Philadelphia. The National Catholic Bioethics Center: [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)



de una exitosa carrera a causa de las ideologías cerradas y antirreligiosas que prevalecían en el ambiente académico universitario bajo el sistema comunista.

En los escenarios médicos actuales todavía encontramos fuertes ideologías antirreligiosas, como los comentarios del profesor Sloan nos lo hacen ver, y pueden traer consecuencias aún más nocivas que un simple retraso para ingresar a la universidad. Conforme las ideologías anti-vida, por ejemplo, son toleradas y hasta promocionadas como parte de la medicina, no solamente muchos seres humanos mueren debido al aborto, la eutanasia, la fertilización in vitro y la experimentación con embriones, sino que, por otra parte, los médicos y científicos que se niegan a colaborar en esas actividades temen que sus carreras profesionales puedan estar en riesgo.

Forzar el cuidado médico y la investigación científica a abrazar tales ideologías anti-vida es pervertir, y a la larga corromper, toda la medicina moderna. Ejemplos de esa corrupción ya se han dado frecuentemente en el pasado, cuando profesores, investigadores y médicos han optado por minimizar las exigencias de una conciencia ética y se han adherido a ideologías seriamente equivocadas. Los códigos de ética como el Juramento Hipocrático, el Código de Nuremberg, y la Declaración de Helsinki, nacieron a partir de que varias ideologías torcidas lograron afianzarse haciendo que el sistema médico sufriera un ablandamiento tal que permitió que médicos e investigadores colaboraran en crímenes en contra de la humanidad. La historia nos recuerda, tristemente, lo fácil que puede ser para la conciencia humana perderse en el turbulento mar de las tentaciones ideológicas y terminar en la vía rápida hacia el crimen y la atrocidad.

Aquellos que luchan por proteger la integridad ética de la medicina mediante leyes que salvaguardan la conciencia, y aquellos profesionales de la medicina que con firmeza practican la recta conciencia personal oponiéndose, entre otras cosas, a acciones que dañan o destruyen la vida humana en sus inicios, nos ofrecen un valioso testimonio y un contrapeso sólido a las poderosas y destructivas ideologías que operan en círculos académicos y en el sistema médico en la actualidad.

## Celebremos el triunfo del Señor

**A** medida que viajo por nuestra Diócesis, tengo el gusto de conocer a personas maravillosas que expresan su gratitud por recibir todas las bendiciones de Dios en sus vidas. Al mismo tiempo, también me encuentro con mucha gente que me piden oraciones porque están sufriendo mucho debido a la cruz que llevan acuestas en ese momento.

Algunos de ellos sobrellevan enfermedades como el cáncer u otras enfermedades severas; otros viven angustiados por tanta presión en sus vidas, aún, otros siguen combatiendo fuertes adicciones en este tiempo en particular. Otros siguen tratando con el dolor causado en sus vidas por algunos miembros de la familia o amigos. En realidad, todos nosotros que seguimos los pasos de Cristo, compartimos Su sufrimiento.

Cada vez que las personas me piden que los bendiga o que ore por ellos, me hacen sentir profundamente inspirado por la gran fe y la confianza en Dios Todopoderoso. Ellos creen con firmeza las verdades que celebramos de forma muy especial

durante la Pascua: Jesucristo resucitó de entre los muertos. Él está vivo y entre nosotros. Ellos encuentran su esperanza en la promesa de la Pascua: En y a través de Su sufrimiento, Su muerte y Su resurrección, Jesucristo ha destruido para siempre el poder de la oscuridad de este mundo y nos ha elevado a una vida nueva.

En palabra y obra, tenemos que luchar siempre de hacer eco a las palabras de San Pablo en la carta a los Gálatas: "Yo, por mi parte, ... he sido crucificado con Cristo, y ya no vivo yo sino que Cristo vive en mí. Lo que ahora vivo en el cuerpo, lo vivo por la fe en el Hijo de Dios, quien me amó y dio su vida por mí." (Gal. 2:19-20).

Cuando reconocemos humildemente nues-

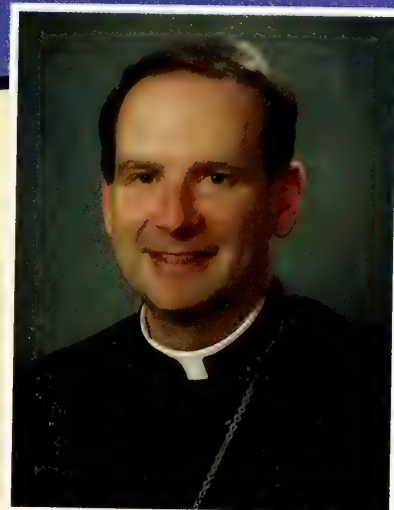
tra dependencia en Dios, cuando escuchamos al Señor en la oración y nos dirigimos hacia Él con regularidad en la Santa Eucaristía y en los otros sacramentos, entonces podemos decir que Cristo está en nosotros, y celebramos Su victoria de nuevo. Es mi esperanza y mi oración que, durante esta época de Pascua y siempre, ¡vivirá en una esperanza llena de alegría!

**En esta época de Pascua, los invito a que renueven su promesa bautismal diariamente, incluyendo ese compromiso de ser Su testigo auténtico en este mundo. Esperemos que otros experimenten su confianza en el amor eterno del Señor.**

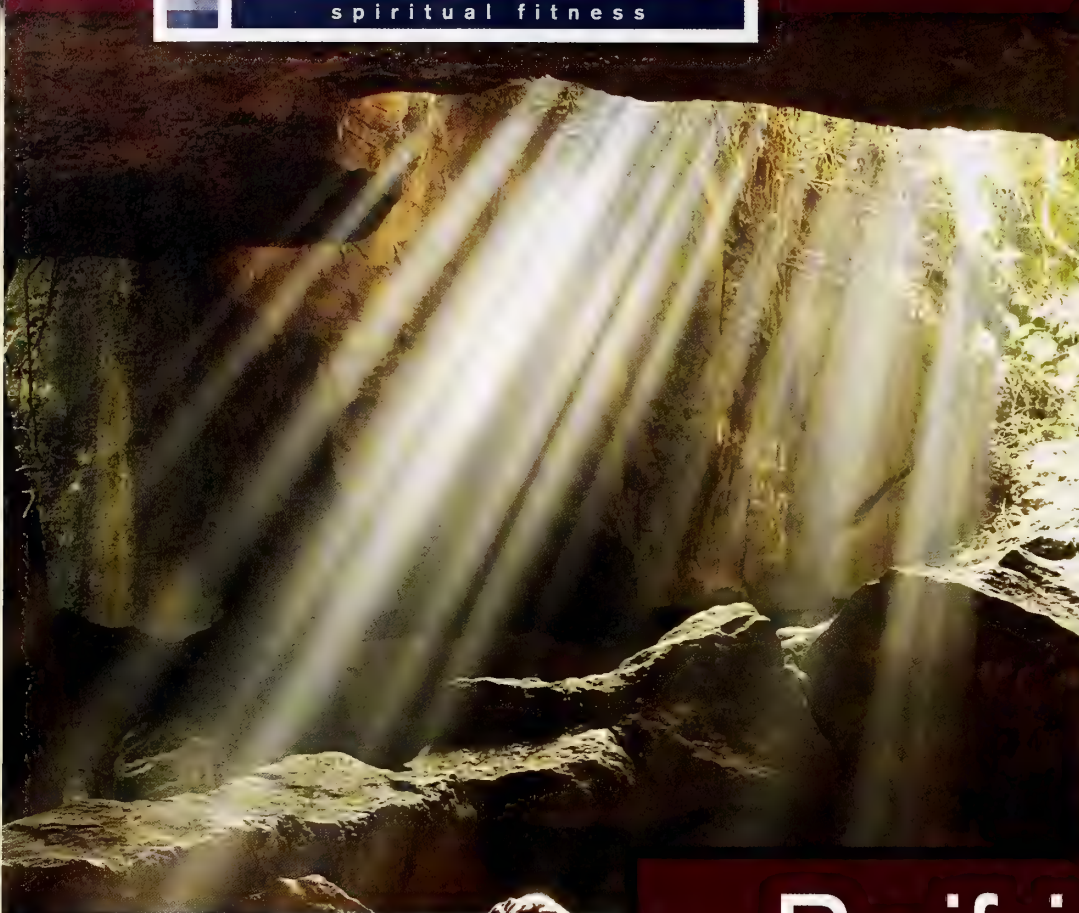
sufriendo y están cargando una pesada cruz, compartan con ellos las verdades que celebramos especialmente durante este tiempo santo.

Sepan que Dios nos utiliza como Sus instrumentos para traer vida a aquellos que más lo necesitan. Que forma tan poderosa de ser testigos de la Resurrección del Señor y para demostrar a los demás que vivimos confiados "en la fe en el Hijo de Dios quien nos ha amado y ha dado Su vida por nosotros"

Que nuestro Señor Jesús Resucitado los bendiga a ustedes y a sus familias con Su paz y los cuide siempre.







**“I**t sure is dark!” A group of us had descended into the caves and caverns in Pennsylvania and had gone past where lights could be found. For fun, at one point we decided to turn out our flashlights. The darkness was incredible and unnerving for those afraid of the dark or who were a bit claustrophobic. Closing your eyes brings you one kind of darkness.

You are not trying to see and do not expect to see. But if your eyes are wide open, and you are trying to see – trying to make out some small glimmer of light – and you cannot see the hand in front of your face, it is unnerving. It did not take us very long before we turned the lights back on. That initial burst of light was blinding. It was like God who enters our lives as true light. The greatness of his light is so powerful, it can overwhelm and go beyond the senses. We have to grow accustomed to His radiance so we can appreciate it. We may experience a feeling of love and inner joy and consolation. When we do, we have felt a

sense of God’s presence. There are other times however, where we may experience the lights going out. God hides himself, so we may seek Him more. Both are times of purification and growth and yet the greater measure comes to us underneath the shadow of the cross.

Many years ago, I found my self in a dark place. I was not sure exactly what was going on, but had a sense that it was important. On the bright side, I had recently experienced an awakening of my faith. God became very real for me. It is not that prior to this, I did not believe in God, but experienced God as more

distant. The truth was that it was I who was distant. But God helped me to know that he was in my life and I found it an incredible experience. I felt like the love of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and been poured out on me. I started to love the Church. I started to appreciate the gift of faith. It was a time of great hunger for God and consolation for my soul.

It lasted for a while, but then a funny thing happened. I was cut off from many things in a short period of time. I left my home, my familiar work, my students, my close friends, the beautiful East Coast and Baltimore that I enjoyed, and moved out to Michigan where I knew nobody. All the things that my life had focused on were gone. As good as some of them were, there was need for a reordering and even a removal of many things from my heart. There was also a repentance of sin and evil habits. I was forced by the move to let go

of many things, confront many things, and was at the same time being drawn more to God. God was saying, “What do you really want? Those things or me?” Those other things were good, but were not God. God’s

consolations would come at various times to help with the walk of faith to let go, to repent, to convert. Prayer at times was full of consolation, but other times, dry and difficult. That period of time for me was a time of intense purification. It continues.

God is always refining us; each day, the Lord calls us to grow in deeper faith, trust, hope and love of God and neighbor.

Sometimes a person might be tempted to think that they have blown it somehow. It is true that sin and lukewarmness can bring about spiritual darkness. One loses a sense of God in one’s life. But usually when that happens, there is a dullness in desire for God. There is a real regression in the journey to God. Sickness or emotional depression or other kinds of anxiety can also affect a person’s spiritual life. Those are trials that we have no control over, and so it is important

## Purifying Darkness

Seeing the light of Christ



to be patient and do the best one can to pray and remain faithful to God.

There are other times however that something more seems to be going on. God has led us to a place that seems dark. The shadow of the cross looms ahead of us and has blotted out consolation. We have lost a feeling of inner comfort and a sense of his presence. Prayer can be dry and difficult.

Fortunately, God has given us many great saints who have gone up the mountain and have thrown us some ropes! St John of the Cross is one of the best in describing this ascent to God. St John was a Doctor of the Church, and wrote brilliantly about the spiritual journey. He talked about something that upon first hearing was a bit intimidating – “the dark night.” Now, if you are like me, there is tendency to run away from things that seem dark

**God is always refining us; each day, the Lord calls us to grow in deeper faith, trust, hope, and love of God and neighbor.**

or difficult. But St. John in coining that phrase was simply putting into words what believers in Jesus Christ have experienced during their journey to God. It is what we all go through. It is the paradox of the Gospel. It is the Paschal Mystery.

“Whoever desires to be my disciple must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and that of the Gospel will save it.” (Mk 8:34-35)

St. John wrote from experience and from reflection on his relationship with God. He had begun a reform of the Carmelite Order along with St. Teresa of Avila. There was resistance to this reform and on one occasion, John was taken into custody by some of his fellow monks who did not approve of his reform. He was put into a very small room with only one small slit for a window and lived in that darkness during the freezing cold of winter or stifling heat of summer. His

brothers would make him kneel down for his meals in the refectory and afterwards would give him “the discipline” which amounted to hitting him with a whip while he prayed Psalm 51. These beatings were, at times, severe enough to cause wounds and scars. While in this state of desolation, removed from all that could give him comfort and support, John was given the gift to describe his inner life with God in the form of a poem called the Spiritual Canticle. He described the incredible purifying love of God and the painful purification that he called “the dark night.” John distinguished two kinds of dark nights. One was of the senses and the other of the soul.

The dark nights are a gift meant to purify us of all attachments that are not of God. God loves us too much to keep us where sin will afflict us. God is a jealous lover and wants us for Himself. Our sense attachments – feeling, tasting, smelling, seeing, hearing, and even the internal ones of imagination, memory and desire or will – all get purified through the dark nights. For a simple example: Sometimes we pray because we like the feelings we get in prayer more than praying for the sake of meeting God. God is not our feelings. You can see this happen when people keep looking for religious experiences and go from one prayer meeting or group to another looking for the spiritual high. In the dark night, God withdraws those sensible feelings in order to help the person grown in faith and love.

We can cooperate with God's help. We can identify sin and pray for conversion of heart. We can practice all the virtues – especially faith, hope and love.

Because of the profoundly deep nature of this subject, it really is impossible to go any further in a short article. I would encourage all the readers to pick up a copy of St. John of the Cross or St. Teresa of Avila. They are readily available at

## spiritual exercise

### Exercises for this month

**1 Dark Night of Elijah. Read and meditate on Elijah's story. 1 Kings 18, 19 and 2 Kings 2:1-12.**

Ask yourself how God revealed His presence to him, and how did God lead him to a deeper faith and trust? What happened in the end to Elijah?

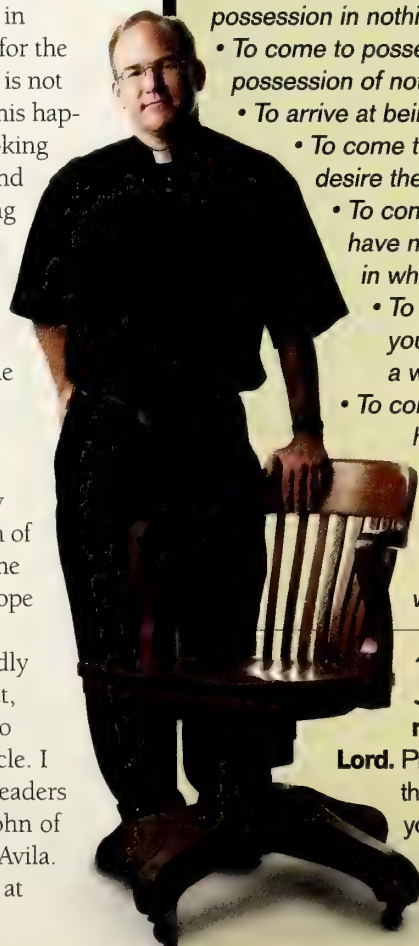


**2 Meditate on the following passages from St. John of the Cross Reflection from The Ascent of Mount Carmel Book I, Ch. 13, No 11 and No 6. Think of where Sacred Scripture teaches the same thing.**

- To reach satisfaction in all, desire its possession in nothing.
- To come to possess all, desire the possession of nothing.
- To arrive at being all, desire to be nothing.
- To come to the knowledge of all, desire the knowledge of nothing.
- To come to the pleasure you have not, you must go by a way in which you enjoy not.
- To come to the knowledge you have not, you must go by a way in which you know not.
- To come to the possession you have not, you must go by a way in which you possess not.
- To come to be what you are not, you must go by a way in which you are not.

**3 Reflect on Jesus' life and when Scriptures reveal a dark night for our Lord. Pray to desire God alone and the fulfillment of His Will in your life.**

– Father Bill Ashbaugh





## 150th Search Retreat Summons Alumni, Memories

►► More than 350 people turned out for the 150th Search for Christian Maturity Program, a weekend retreat for 11th- and 12th-grade students. The turnout included family members and friends of the 42 students who took part in the retreat, plus graduates of past Search weekends.

The Search Program began in the Diocese of Raleigh in 1976 as a way to deepen the faith of young Catholics and encourage them to continue their faith journey. Since it began, 5,620 have taken part in the 150 retreat weekends.

The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge presided at the closing Mass, with Monsignor John Wall, Pastor of the Newman Center Parish at UNC-Chapel Hill and a co-founder of the Search Program, as homilist. Monsignor Wall told those gathered that the diocesan program began following a Eucharistic Congress that was held in Philadelphia in 1976 that was attended by a group of some 40 people from the Diocese of Raleigh. What they encountered in Philadelphia, he said, they wanted

to bring back to North Carolina.

Monsignor Wall encouraged the students to "Feel Christ all around you, not just the historical Christ of 2,000 years ago, but the Christ who you have experienced this weekend, who you know in the Eucharist, who you know in your life, who you know in your family because you are baptized in Christ Jesus. This search has ended," Monsignor Wall added, "but your search will continue all the days of your life."



On March 13, 8th graders from St. Mary Magdalene School in Apex presented Jenny Wayne, representing the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, with a check for \$1685.33. The students, with an initial grant from their Parent Teacher Association, raised the money by completing a project based on the Parable of the Talents.



## Faithful Set New Record for Mission Donations

▶▶ Parishioners in the Diocese of Raleigh donated more than \$215,000 in 2007 to support the work of 31 missionary organizations and foreign dioceses in need. The amount set a new diocesan record for the annual appeal, which is conducted in about 45 percent of the parishes in the Diocese.

Each year, the Diocese invites representatives from Missionary Orders and dioceses in need to make a weekend appeal at a designated parish. Father Robert J. Kus, Chair of the Diocesan Missionary Cooperation Plan (MCP), said the Diocese receives requests from approximately 150 organiza-

tions each year, but can accommodate between 30 and 35.

The missionaries come for a weekend to speak during the Masses at their assigned parish. The collection taken up at the Masses of each participating parish is then combined and divided equally among the religious organizations and foreign dioceses. Father Kus said last year's collections provided approximately \$6,300 for each organization.

"The people that these missionaries represent are the poorest of the poor," Father Kus said. "They don't have benefactors whom they can call on to help provide for their needs. They are totally at the mercy of the generosity of people in our country

## OFFICIAL

▶▶ Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following Priest assignments:

- **Reverend Carlos Mario González**, a Priest of the Archdiocese of Medellin, Colombia will begin his interim assignment as Parochial Vicar at Maria, Reina de las Americas Parish in Mount Olive, N.C.
- **Reverend Luis Ángel Hurtado**, a Priest of the Archdiocese of Medellin, Colombia will begin his interim assignment as Parochial Vicar at Saint Anne Parish in Edenton, N.C.

▶▶ Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following Diocesan appointment:

- **Reverend Bruce B. Schultz, O.P.**, Prior of St. Martin de Porres Priory, Raleigh, is additionally appointed Campus Minister to North Carolina Central University effective March 1, 2008.

and in other developed countries. They are most grateful for the support we can provide."

Father Kus said his

committee has recently reviewed this year's applications and is now in the process of extending the 2008 invitations.



## PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE DECEASED PRIESTS DURING THE UPCOMING MONTHS

### APRIL

Rev. Chan H. Chase, 1997  
Msgr. Thomas P. Griffin, 1931  
Rev. James H. Tevlin, 1966  
Rev. Corbin W. Ketchersid, 2003  
Rev. James F. Keenan, 1988  
Rev. Joseph F. Gallagher, 1946  
Rev. Francis J. McCourt, 1982  
Rev. Howard V. Lane, 1967

Rev. Walter F. Higgins, 1981  
Msgr. Cornelius Murphy, 1954  
Rev. Guido John Carcich, 2002  
Rev. Michael W. Murphy, 1990  
Rev. Herman Bosschermuller, 1966  
Msgr. Charles Gable, 1977  
Rev. James A. Manley, 1940

### MAY

Rev. Eugene P. Carroll, 1937  
Rev. Henri Blanc, 1972  
Rev. Joseph F. Bumann, 1989  
Rev. William T. McShea, 1973  
Msgr. Michael Francis O'Keefe, 1994  
Most Rev. William J. Hafey, 1954  
Rev. C. Ralph Monk, 1985

Rev. John J. Harper, 2003  
Rev. James J. Noonan, 1992  
Most Rev. George E. Lynch, 2003  
Rev. John A. Beshel, 1955

### JUNE

Msgr. John Roueche, 2000  
Rev. Edward L. Gross, 1963  
Rev. Hugh Kennedy, 1968  
Rev. Philip B. Edelen, 1944

Rev. Michael A. Jordan, S.J., 1999  
Rev. Nicholas Liston, 1955  
Rev. Francis J. Gallagher, 1931

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COUNCIL

*For a Sustainable Training in Holiness...*

## AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY Institute for Pastoral Theology



**NOW ACCEPTING  
APPLICATIONS FOR  
FALL 2008 CLASSES IN**

**Columbia,  
South Carolina**

Diocese of Charleston

**Application Deadline:  
April 1, 2008**

## MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

### Our Commitment

- ♦ Theological Education – Formation of Mind
- ♦ Spiritual Formation – Conversion of Heart
- ♦ Pastoral Orientation – Prudential Wisdom

### Format

- ♦ One Weekend a Month
- ♦ August – May
- ♦ Three-Year Cycle

### For More Information

**Toll Free: 866-866-1100**  
**Email: [ipt@avemaria.edu](mailto:ipt@avemaria.edu)**  
**Web: [www.ipt.avemaria.edu](http://www.ipt.avemaria.edu)**







Bishop Michael F. Burbidge celebrating Mass for Triangle-area Vietnamese Catholic Community with Father Thanh Nguyen and Father John M. David concelebrating.

### Bishop Celebrates Mass With Vietnamese Catholics

**O**n Sunday, Feb. 24, Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge celebrated his first Mass with Raleigh's Vietnamese Catholic community in Raleigh. The community, which includes more than 200 families, meets for Mass weekly at St. Joseph Church in Raleigh. Concelebrating with Bishop Burbidge at the bilingual liturgy were Father Thanh Nguyen, Pastor of Good Shepherd Church in Hope Mills, N.C., and Father John M. David. Father Thanh celebrates once a month with the community in Raleigh; Father David celebrates on the other Sundays. Father Thanh also ministers to a smaller Vietnamese Catholic community in Fayetteville.

In his homily, which was translated by Father Thanh, Bishop Burbidge used the gospel story of the Samaritan woman at the well to speak about spiritual thirst. He compared the congregation to the Israelites, who left their homeland and, after many difficulties, found a new home. "Sometimes, like the Israelites, we may cry out in our

struggles, 'Lord, are you with me?'" the Bishop said. "But the Lord always answers, 'I will never leave you. I am with you most especially in your time of need to sustain you and to give you newness of life.'"

After Mass, the community presented bouquets to the Bishop and the priests and hosted a reception featuring Vietnamese foods.





# 4th Annual North Carolina Black Catholic Conference



## CELEBRATING & PROCLAIMING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Celebrating 30 years of Evangelization

Sponsored by Diocese of Raleigh  
African Ancestry Ministry & Evangelization

### June 27-29, 2008

Sheraton Raleigh Capital Center Hotel  
421 S. Salisbury Street, Raleigh

Masses  
Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
and  
Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis  
Principal Celebrants and Homilists

Keynote Speaker  
Reverend Jim Goode, O.F.M., Ph.D.

### Workshop Subjects:

- Spirituality & Parish Life
- Youth and Young Adults
- Racism
- Catholic Education
- Respect Life
- HIV/AIDS
- Africa
- Social Justice

For information contact: **Martha Carter Bailey**,  
Director of African Ancestry Ministry & Evangelization  
919-821-9762 or email: [Martha.bailey@raldioc.org](mailto:Martha.bailey@raldioc.org)

### 2008 North Carolina Black Catholic Conference • Registration Form

#### Please Print.

Please check one: ☐ Youth age (8-18) age \_\_\_\_ ☐ Young Adult (19-35) age \_\_\_\_ ☐ Adult  
☐ I will attend the Youth Track  
☐ I will attend the Music Institute

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ministry Position(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parish/Diocese \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Full Conference Includes: • Attendance to all sessions and workshops • Vendor Exhibits  
• Conference Materials • Breakfast Buffet - Saturday - Sunday  
• Recognition Banquet - Saturday

#### NCBC Conference Registration Fees:

Please check appropriate items:

	Registration by 5/16/08	Registration by 6/20/08
_____ Full Conference per person	\$150.00	\$175.00
_____ Family of 4 Full Conference (Please complete a registration form for each family member)	\$300.00	
_____ Saturday Only Registration & Banquet	\$140.00	
_____ Onsite Registration per person	\$175.00 (Cash Only)	
_____ Bill Parish (Please confirm with your Parish) (Letter of Authorization Required)		

For Office Use Only:	Date Received	Check #	Check Amount
-------------------------	---------------	---------	--------------

Make Checks Payable To: NCBC Conference  
Please mail Registration To: Diocese of Raleigh  
715 Nazareth Street  
Raleigh, NC 27606

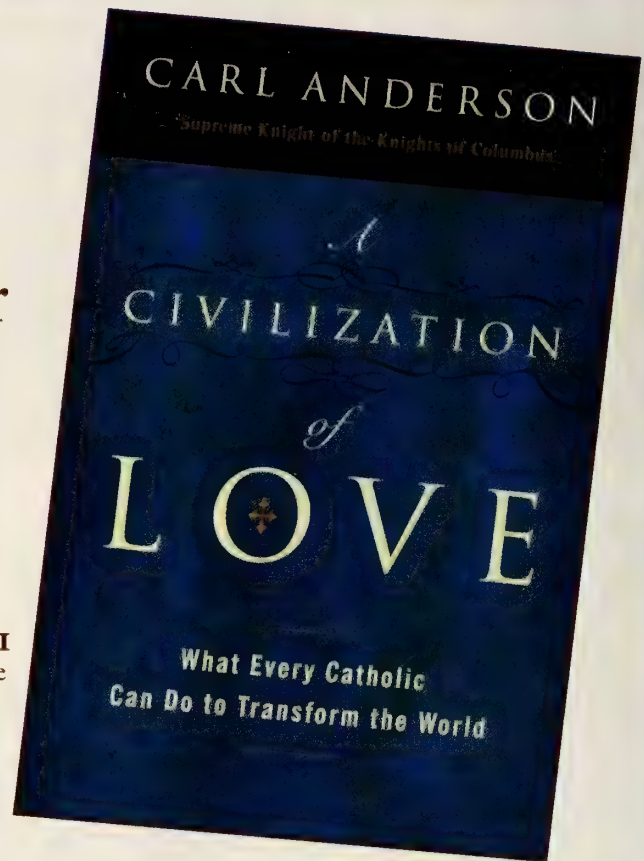
Phone: 919-821-9744 • Fax: 919-821-9712 • Email: [register@raldioc.org](mailto:register@raldioc.org)



# A BOOK RESPONDING TO THE POPE'S CALL

“May the Holy Spirit make you ... brave in your initiatives, so that you will be able to offer your contribution to the building up of the ‘civilization of love.’”

— **Pope Benedict XVI**  
2007 World Youth Day Message



“*A Civilization of Love* is a bracing call to a new American revolution: a revolution of virtue.... Give this book to friends who say there’s nothing to be done to heal a wounded culture.”

— **George Weigel**  
Distinguished Senior Fellow  
Ethics and Public Policy Center

“Carl Anderson ... artfully weaves theory and practice, giving us a rare specimen indeed: a practical guide for idealists.”

— **John L. Allen Jr.**  
Senior Correspondent  
*National Catholic Reporter*

All author proceeds from this book are being donated to Knights of Columbus Charities.



**HarperOne**  
An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers  
[www.harperone.com](http://www.harperone.com)

  
**[www.acivilizationoflove.com](http://www.acivilizationoflove.com)**

**Available March 25 online and at bookstores everywhere.**





Pope Benedict XVI says, "schools must ask themselves about the mission they are called to undertake in the modern social environment."

## Educational crisis in Catholic schools

**I**n the midst of what Pope Benedict XVI calls an "educational crisis," it is important for Catholic schools to maintain their identities.

The pope affirmed this when he received in audience participants in the plenary assembly of the Congregation for Catholic Education.

"The ecclesiastical disciplines," the Holy Father said, "especially theology, are today subjected to new interrogations in a world tempted, on the one hand, by a rationalism which follows a false idea of freedom unfettered by any religious references and, on the other, by various forms of fundamentalism which, with their incitement to violence and fanaticism, falsify the true essence of religion."

Faced with the educational crisis, Pope Benedict XVI continued, "schools must ask themselves about the mission they are called to undertake in the modern social environment." Catholic schools, he said, "though open to everyone and respecting the identity of each,

cannot but present their own educational, human and Christian perspective."

The pope contended that schools face a new challenge, that of "the coming together of religions and cultures in the joint search for truth." This means, he said, on the one hand, "not excluding anyone in the name of their cultural or religious background," and on the other "not stopping at the mere recognition" of this cultural or religious difference.

The pope concluded by highlighting the need for "adequate formation in the spiritual life so as to make Christian communities, particularly in parishes, ever more aware of their vocation, and capable of providing adequate responses to questions of spirituality, especially as posed by the young. For this to happen, the Church must not lack qualified and responsible apostles and evangelizers."

## what in the world? the top-10 Catholic News events this month

### 1 Pope Benedict to visit U.S. ▶

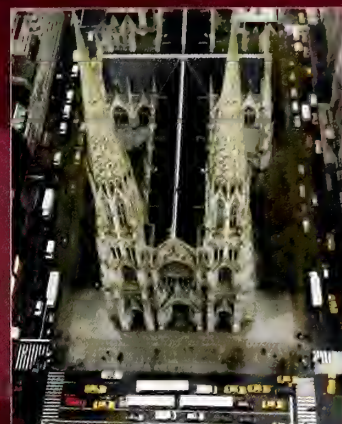
The pope is visiting from April 15-21.

### 2 Promoting dignity despite obstacles

Promoting dignity despite obstacles The Colombian bishops' conference wants to promote the dignity of the woman. The obstacles they see are the "feminization of poverty" and the promotion of abortion.

### 3 Stolen again

For the second time, the incorrupt heart of Servant of God Bishop Mamerto Esquiú has been stolen from the church where it's kept



Pope Benedict will visit New York April to address the United Nations, visit the site of the World Trade Center and hold mass at the cathedral.

### 4 Good Friday prayer changes

Benedict XVI modified the prayer for the Jewish people prayed in the Good Friday liturgy according to the 1962 Roman Missal.

### 5 Poor as priority number one

The U.S. bishops have asked President Bush and Congress to make the needs of the poor their number-one priority as they debate and pass an economic stimulus package.

### 6 Message to the media

May 4 marks the 42nd World Day of Social Communications. Benedict XVI's message for the day is a reminder that media professionals are called to defend the human person and his dignity.

### 7 Promoting dignity despite obstacles

The Colombian bishops' conference wants to promote the dignity of the woman. The obstacles they see are the "feminization of poverty" and the promotion of abortion.

### 8 Vietnam's religious freedom

Although religious freedom in Vietnam is moving in the right direction, overall the situation remains poor, according to the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

### 9 Ministry without boundaries

A Catholic priest was sentenced by the tribunal of Oran, a city in northwestern Algeria, to a year in prison for having "directed a religious ceremony in a place which has not been recognized by the government."

### 10 NAFTA hurts Mexican farmers

Martinez Zepeda said too little has been done to prepare farmers within his country for the latest NAFTA treaty causing a risk of greater impoverishment and the forcing of many peasants to abandon the countryside and to emigrate to cities, which are unprepared to receive them.



## things to do:

**First Friday Vocation Holy Hour**, May 2 at Holy Family Church, Elizabeth City, N.C., 7-9 p.m. The VHH is an opportunity for all the people of the diocese to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, with a specific emphasis on an increase in vocations in the Diocese of Raleigh. The VHH's are open to everyone, but they are certainly unique opportunities for

men and women discerning a church vocation to come together to pray and be encouraged in their discernment. The next VHH will be held on June 6 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Raleigh.

**Wedding Anniversary Masses** celebrated by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for couples celebrating their 25th, 50th or 50+ anniversary. April 27, 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Raleigh and May 4, 2p.m. at St. Paul Church, New Bern. Contact your local parish to register.

**Family Honor** will be presenting *Real Love & Real Life* at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Raleigh April 18-19. This presentation is for 8th graders and their parents. Its purpose is to explore God's special gift of human fertility, sexuality, the virtue of chastity, and the beauty and wonder of growing up. The material is grounded in Pope John Paul II's *Theology of the Body* and taught in an age-appropriate way. To register or for more information, call Christine Miesowicz at (919) 847-8205 or email Christine.miesowicz@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge on Sat. April 12, 2008.

**The National Ministry Summit**, an important part of the Emerging Models of Pastoral Leadership project, will be held April 20-23 in Orlando, Fla. at the beautiful Rosen Plaza Hotel on International Drive. Participants will be invited to participate in both plenary sessions and action groups focused on the primary areas of research in the project, including: best practices for parish pastoral leadership; multiple parish pastoring; leadership of Canon 517.2 parishes; the next generation of leaders, human resource practices for the emerging models. The summit is being hosted by the six project partners as their

### Upcoming events at Avila Retreat Center

711 Mason Road, Durham 27712. To register or for more information, call (919) 477-1285.



►► **Paths to the Center: Time, Prayer and Labyrinth.** April 22, 9:30 am – 2 pm. One of the hardest parts of our busy lives is making room for the time and prayers that can be centering and nourishing. You are invited to make just this kind of time to engage in some of the spiritual practices loved by many. The core practice will be walking the beautiful Avila labyrinth in addition to learning a bit more about labyrinth history and purpose. Presenter Lori Pistor is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church USA. She has served congregations in Durham and on the Outer Banks. Donation \$30.

►► **Weekend for Engaged Couples**, April 25-27, Fri. 7 pm – Sun. Noon. Contact Linda Bedo, Diocesan Director of Marriage Preparation and Enrichment, 919-821-9753.

►► **God Speaks to Us Through Dreams**, May 2-4, Fri. 7 pm – Sun. 11 am. "Your old ones shall dream dreams, and your young ones shall see visions" (Joel 2:28). WE receive guidance daily through sleep dreams and daydreams. That guidance may show us pathways to healing relationships, to creativity in work and deepening our friendship with sacred creation and the Divine. This retreat will offer ways to explore and honor dreams and to bring wisdom into daily life. The presenter is Sr. Carol Davis, O.P. She does psychospiritual counseling in upstate New York and has led retreats throughout the U.S. Donation \$120.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage** to the Basilica of the National Shrine of Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., with

### Youth and Young Adult Minister

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, in Wilmington, NC seeks a faith filled candidate to serve our parish community. The parish is staffed by the religious order of the Oblates of St. Francis deSales. The candidate is directly responsible for continuing to create a prayerful and dynamic environment for youth grades 6-12 to enhance the overall parish mission. The position will also develop and coordinate a Young Adults Ministry. **Qualifications:** Catholic in good standing, BA or MA with theological course work, youth minister certificate, experience in youth ministry and a working knowledge of "Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry." Experience with Whole Community Catechesis and/or Lifelong Learning desirable. Salary and benefits commensurate with education and experience. Interested and qualified candidates apply to: Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, C/O YM Search Committee, 6650 Carolina Beach Road, Wilmington, NC 28412; [YMCommittee@iccwilm.org](mailto:YMCommittee@iccwilm.org).

**Director of Youth Ministry** sought for active college-town parish. Successful candidate will have BA/MA with theological course work; experience in youth ministry, in curriculum/liturgical based catechesis, and in "Renewing the Vision"; strong leadership, organizational and communication skills. DYM is responsible for continuing to create a prayerful and dynamic environment for youth in grades 9-12 by working with Faith Development team, staff, catechists, and parents. Competitive salary and benefits. Spanish Speaking a plus. Contact DYM Search Committee, St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 940 Carmichael Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 by April 21 for position available immediately.



annual conferences for 2008. Their commitment to the future of parish leadership has made this shared event possible. For more information contact Bea Callery at 919-821-9715 or callery@raldioc.org.

### Encountering and Sharing God's Word~

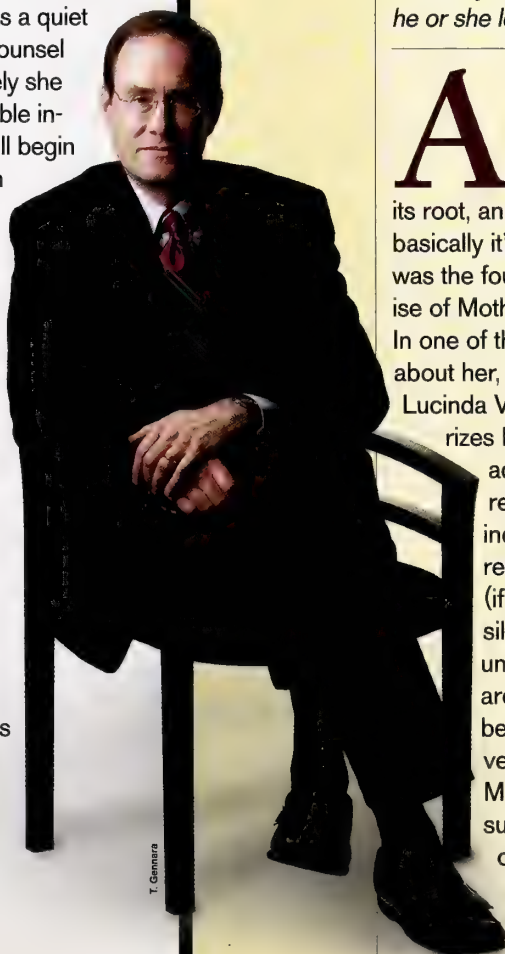
**Retreat Day.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m., April 26, at the Newman Catholic Student Center, Chapel Hill, N.C. This is the fifth and final session in the series presented and facilitated by Father Jude Siciliano, O.P. It offers a method for discovering God's active presence in the Scriptures and is useful for small groups and individual settings. Registration is \$30. For more information contact Robert Jones, 919-821-9740 or Rob.Jones@raldioc.org.

**Jamboree.** April 26 at the Short Journey Center, Smithfield. This high energy Saturday event is for youth grades 6-8 to gather for social action activities, outdoor liturgy, picnic, keynote speaker, community building and lots of fun! For more information contact Mike Hagarty at 919-821-9770 or Hagarty@raldioc.org.

### The Way of Mary - Praying & Living Her Words,

Thurs., May 8 at the Christian Family Living Center, 2006 Wicker Street North Topsail Beach, NC 28460. Mary was part of the central act of history. In giving birth to Jesus, she participated in our salvation and we long to hear her voice. She was a quiet woman, a woman who kept her own counsel and pondered things in her heart. Surely she spoke more than we find in the four Bible incidents. Father Al McMenamy, S.M. will begin this retreat at 9 a.m. and conclude with mass at 2 p.m. \$25 includes lunch. For more information call 910-328-1584 or visit [www.ChristianFamilyLiving.com](http://www.ChristianFamilyLiving.com).

**Mother's Day Retreat,** May 9-11 at Christian Family Living Center, 2006 Wicker Street North Topsail Beach, NC 28460. A unique opportunity to express appreciation for your mother and communicate how much you really love her, reconcile the little hurts that arise in any family, and commit to love, honor and cherish her throughout the coming year. Father Al McMenamy, S.M. will be available all weekend. Come and experience God's love as a family, while enjoying each other. \$70 ages 2-7; \$100 ages 8+. Family max is \$490. For more information call 910-328-1584 or visit [www.ChristianFamilyLiving.com](http://www.ChristianFamilyLiving.com).



T. Gennara

## How to deal with a cranky customer



Debbie has been a cashier at the local grocery store for more than 30 years.

**Q** • *Debbie says: My favorite part of my job had always been the interaction with people. But, beginning last year, I began to find it more difficult. For example, last Fourth of July was quite busy and the lines were longer than usual. A young man came through my line who was just plain rude, complaining about what a hurry he was in and how slow I was. I was very upset by this, because similar situations were becoming more and more common. People can be downright disrespectful. What bothered me even more was the fact that I began to let some of these customers get to me, and I'd begun to make rude comments right back. I had never been like that before. I was almost depressed coming home after my shift each day. Then, one day, I was listening to a radio talk show that was focused on the same topic. One person called in to describe almost exactly the same problem I was having, and the caller mentioned that she decided to turn it into a challenge. Not only was she not going to take the customer's attitude personally, she would take her response one step further — for every cranky customer with whom she came in contact, she would try to somehow get a smile out of that person before he or she left the store. — Debbie*

**A** • This approach in dealing with people is, at its root, an act of love, and basically it's simple. This was the foundational premise of Mother Teresa's life. In one of the books written about her, *A Simple Path*, Lucinda Vardey summarizes Mother Teresa's advice to all of us, regardless of our individual beliefs or religious practices (if any): "If we find silence or prayer unfamiliar and we are not sure if we believe in anything very much, then Mother Teresa suggests we try offering small acts of love to others

— and we will find our hearts will open. The important thing is that, having read [the book], we should do something, anything, and by that act of love we (and others) will be enriched."

Debbie decided to challenge herself in the same way as the caller on the radio show. It was difficult at first, but she kept working at it. It wasn't about how she felt anymore; it was about the positive impact she could have on other people in her small corner of the world. Debbie discovered that she had a gift for making people smile, and thus felt very satisfied that she was enriching the lives of others as well as her own.

— Tim Ryan



# One of the First

## St. Paul, New Bern

Church in North Carolina has followed several scenarios. One of these, the influx of relatively prosperous northern professionals seeking a new home for their retirement, is to a large extent the story of St. Paul. Father Ernest Ruede, pastor since 1997, estimates that this population makes up about half his congregation.

"It was highlighted when we were planning the new church," he says. "I asked for volunteers for the expansion committee, and we had architects, electricians, heating technicians, demographers. If we had gone out and hired people we couldn't have had a broader base of talents and experience." St. Paul and its mission, St. Peter the Fisherman

in Oriental, serve young families as well, including some military families from the Camp Lejeune

Marine Base and the

Marine Air Station at Cherry Point. Father Ruede characterizes

the entire parish as talented and generous: "They're successful, but also cooperative. When a project needs doing, they take it and run." The Parish Directory of Services is convincing evidence of this: It lists more than 80 volunteer ministries.

Challenges? The pastor mentions communicating the full meaning of stewardship. "Our people respond to need with great generosity," Father Ruede says. "But the other reason we give is to show our gratitude for the blessings we've received from God."

**T**ravel to the Historic District of downtown New Bern, N.C., and you will find a cornerstone of faith artifact that recalls the foundations of Catholicism in North Carolina, a time when the territory was the responsibility of John England, first Bishop of Charleston, S.C., and Catholics in a few towns were beginning to become numerous and prosperous enough to build churches. The cornerstone of St. Paul Church was laid by Bishop England in 1840. The building was completed the next year, but the Bishop died in 1842 and the church would not be dedicated until his successor visited North Carolina in 1844. Although it is rarely used for liturgical events today, St. Paul is the oldest Catholic church still standing in

Travel to the suburban outskirts of New Bern, and you will find one of the newest, largest and many would say among the most beautiful churches in the Diocese, a testament to the growth of Catholicism in North Carolina since those early days. The new St. Paul Church was

dedicated in 2004, and comfortably seats 1,200. It sits among tall pine trees on a sprawling campus with a Family Life Center, a school and a convent. The campus has been home to St. Paul's congregation since 1983.

The recent growth of the Catholic



the Diocese of  
**Raleigh**

**St. Paul's  
Catholic Church**

3005 Country  
Club Rd,  
New Bern, NC

► Call the  
parish office for  
Mass times:  
**252.6381.984**



# Retirement Income you can depend on

With all the ups and downs in the financial markets, many of our older friends are turning to the Catholic Church's Charitable Gift Annuity program to create a steady, dependable stream of lifetime income. They like knowing that every quarter they will receive the same amount, year in and year out.

They like the other benefits, too. Things like a good payment rate (up to 11.3%) and income that is partially tax-free. They like the income tax charitable deduction they receive and, of course, the fact that they are helping to secure the future of their Church.

To learn more, fill out the coupon below and send it to the office of Stewardship and Development. Once we know your age and the size of the gift you want to make, and whether it will be cash or stock, we can prepare an easy-to-read gift illustration that will tell you:



- How much you will receive for the rest of your life?
- How much of your quarterly income will be tax-free?
- How big your income tax charitable deduction will be?
- How your gift annuity will benefit the Catholic Church?

## Easy to do!

To request information, fill out the form and mail to:

Office of Stewardship and Development; 715 Nazareth Street; Raleigh, NC 27606-2187

☐ Please send me the brochure, The Charitable Gift Annuity: Answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

☐ I would like a personal illustration of how a charitable gift annuity would benefit me.

Use the amount checked for my illustration: ☐ \$50,000 ☐ \$25,000 ☐ \$10,000 ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive my payments: ☐ quarterly ☐ semi-annually ☐ annually.

The proposal should be prepared for: ☐ me only; my birth date is \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please include a second individual whose birth date is \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ THIS INFORMATION IS

Address \_\_\_\_\_ STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Visit our Estate Planning Web Site:

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.

## Celebrate the opening of a most incredible lifestyle!

**NOW OPEN!**

**Pennybyrn at Maryfield is the toast of the town!**

Here at the Triad's newest continuing care retirement community in High Point, you'll find a casual lifestyle rich in fulfillment. You'll love the picturesque setting. The rich tradition of the sponsors—the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God. And the healthy approach to your retirement years.

So here's to new opportunities...new friends...and new peace of mind...here's to your future, at Pennybyrn at Maryfield!

Visit us today, or call (336) 821-4050 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor  
Servants of the Mother of God

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

109 Penny Road, High Point, NC 27260

NP/NCC/3-08





# HEROES OF SACRIFICE SEMINARIANS



**BRENDAN  
JOSEPH BUCKLER**

ST CHARLES BORROMEO  
1st YEAR THEOLOGY



**JUAN  
MANUEL LOPEZ**

ST CHARLES BORROMEO  
1st YEAR THEOLOGY

Pray for our seminarians by name, especially for **Brendan Buckler** and **Juan Manuel Lopez** as they prepare for ordination to the Priesthood in June of 2011.

**Need help discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life?**

Contact Father Ned Shlesinger  
919.832.6280 / [vocations@raldioc.org](mailto:vocations@raldioc.org)

**Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh**  
[www.dioceseofraleigh.org/vocations](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/vocations)



April 2008



**NC Catholics**

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



please recycle



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514

95219

P 12 1223

UNC CHAPEL HILL SERIALS DEPARTMENT 34

CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY

CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NC Catholics

May/June 2008

\$2.00



NC Catholics Travel to See  
POPE BENEDICT XVI

special edition





**T**he past several weeks have been an exciting and joyful time in the life of our Diocese and the entire Church. How privileged we are to be Catholic! How proud I am of our Diocese!

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception was an event filled with abundant spiritual blessings. I was overwhelmed by the number of priests, religious and lay faithful who made extraordinary sacrifices to join in the pilgrimage. It was edifying to see so many people celebrate the sacrament of penance, adore the Lord in silence before the Most Blessed Sacrament, pray the rosary and listen to the presentations on the Blessed Mother that were offered. I will especially remember processing down the long aisle at the beginning of the Mass and witnessing the rich diversity of our Diocese and the unity that is ours in Christ Jesus. At the Mass and throughout the day, we prayed for all those in our Diocese who were unable to join us, especially the sick and homebound. There is no doubt that all of us who participated were renewed in our love for the Lord and his Blessed Mother.

Our holy Catholic faith was celebrated in such a magnificent way throughout the historic trip and pastoral visit of Pope Benedict XVI. He beautifully reminded us that Christ is our hope and we are sent forth to be His witnesses. In his magnificent homilies and reflections, which I encourage you to read and meditate upon, the Holy Father emphasized that in Christ alone we discover the truth that sets us free and the joy which the world can never take away. (The homilies are available on [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)).

It was a privilege to be with Bishop Gossman and our brother Bishops as the Holy Father addressed us and encouraged us in our ministry. He conveyed special thanks to our priests and religious and all who have given their entire lives in service to the Church. Our Holy Father acknowledged the gravity of the scandal that has impacted the life of the Church and repeated his profound sorrow and sadness for the horrific sexual abuse of children. The Holy Father challenged all Bishops to remain instruments of healing and reconciliation and to reach out in compassion to all victims. I renew my commitment to respond to that call. He also asked all God's people to show ongoing support for our priests who continue to serve the Lord faithfully, generously and devoutly. In

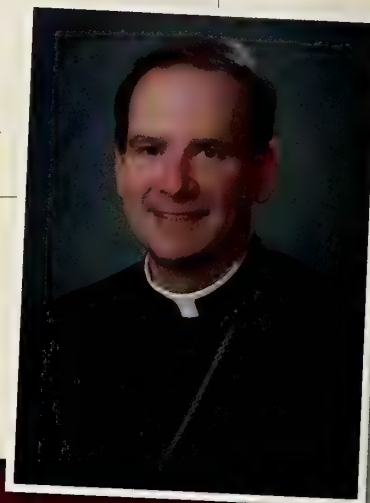
addition, the Holy Father stressed that Bishops should make the strengthening of married love and family life among the highest priorities in our Dioceses, which we will continue to do in Raleigh.

Married love was celebrated in our Diocese recently at our annual Masses for couples celebrating 25, 50 and 50-plus years of marriage. It was a great joy to gather with approximately 300 couples and their families at the two Masses that were celebrated. On behalf of the entire Diocese, I thanked them for their example

**This is, indeed, a blessed time in the life of our Church! May all of us be renewed in our holy Catholic faith and love for the Lord and his Church.**

and witness of their lives, as they are visible signs of the love the Lord has for us and His bride, the Church. I am grateful to all you married couples in our Diocese for your vocations and faithfulness. May your love continue to grow stronger with the passing of each new day.

This is, indeed, a blessed time in the life of our Church! May all of us be renewed in our holy Catholic faith and love for the Lord and his Church. May we continue to give great honor to our Blessed Mother and seek her constant protection. May we remain loyal to Our Holy Father and true to the teachings of our Church. May we be strengthened in our vocations and ever faithful to the promises we have made to God and one another. Through the intercession of Mary and Joseph, may Our Lord Jesus bless you and your families and keep you strong in faith, hope and love!



## A time of joy and blessings



cover story

## NC Catholics Travel to See Pope Benedict

►► Approximately 200 Catholics from the Diocese of Raleigh participated in the various events in Washington, D.C. and New York City during Pope Benedict's trip to the United States April 15-20. Read their stories and see their photos from this historic papal visit.

# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

### from the Bishop

**2** A time of joy and blessings.

– Bishop Michael E. Burbidge

### since you asked ...

**6** Dear NCC: Do embryos have souls?

– Father Tad Pacholczyk

### from the editor

**7** A special day.

– Rich Reece

### theology 101

**8** Holy Orders: 1 sacrament – 3 degrees.

– Rita Thiron

### marriage matters

**12** She says: Mass is important to our family. He says: It's not important to me. What do they do?

– Tom and JoAnne Fogle

### parenting journey

**13** Whose age is more important? Yours or your child's? Parenting in any generation.

– Dr. Cathleen McGreal

### voices in our church

**11** Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver. – Msgr. Thomas Hadden

**11** Aniversario matrimonial.

– Padre Fernando Torres

### work life

**37** What to do if you're in a dead-end job. – Tim Ryan



### parish profile

**38** Thanks to God.  
St. Eugene, Wendell.

– Rich Reece

## el hispano Católico

### 28 Querido lector de NCC

►► Querido lector: ¿Tienen Alma los Embriones?

– El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

### 29 Obispo Burbidge

►► Tiempo de regocijo y bendición

– Obispo Michael E. Burbidge

### 30 el hispano católico

►► El amor matrimonial:

Un símbolo del amor de Jesús hacia nosotros

– Rich Reece

# 14



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
**PUBLISHER**

Frank Morock  
**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**

May/June 2008 • Vol. 4 : Issue 4

Richard Reece  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Holly Stringer  
**ADVERTISING MANAGER**

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Amanda Cadran  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Fathé Tad Pacholczyk  
Father Fernando Torres  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Nathalie Fuerst  
**TRANSLATOR**

Eddie Arrossi Photography  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
**CHAIRMAN**

Patrick M. O'Brien  
**PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
**EDITORIAL DIRECTOR**

Vicki Bedard  
**DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING**

Jillane Job  
**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT**

Patricia Oliver  
**SECRETARY**

Patrick Dally  
**ART DIRECTOR/WEB MASTER**

Lynne Ridenour  
Abby Wieber  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNERS**

Betsy Miner  
**PROOFREADING**

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Tom and JoAnn Fogle  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Michelle Sessions Difranco  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

InnerWorkings  
**PRINT MANAGEMENT**

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and August. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™. Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

**Give the gift of  
NCCatholics:**

**Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730**

local news

## Next Month on our Cover: Two Priests to be Ordained for the Diocese of Raleigh

►► Two men, two countries, two paths. Deacon Michael Spurr and Deacon Roman Acero, at first glance, don't have much in common. One hails from the Iowan Midwest, the other from Bogota, Columbia. Backgrounds and languages are distinctly different. But in the same way that the Catholic Church retains the same identity no matter the language or the country, these two men, on June 7, will kneel and receive something very extraordinary that they will forever hold in common: The Sacrament of Holy Orders.

**Deacon Michael Spurr** was born in 1963 in Galena, Illinois, but moved to Clinton, Iowa at age two. He is the son of Carol and the late Richard Spurr and has three sisters and a brother. After completing his undergraduate degree at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1986, he served in the US Navy for seven years. "I had really gotten away from the Church," he recalls, "but I realized something was missing." Then he relocated to Wake Forest, North Carolina as an operations manager for a telecommunications company and began attending church. He remembers a turning point following the funeral of a young girl at St. Luke: "I was sitting in my kitchen and I thought, 'She lost her life for reasons no one can explain. I have my life, but what am I doing

with it?'" Spurr began formation for the Diocese of Raleigh in 2002. What he has learned since in a variety of assignments is that "Grace sees you through it all. It's about being present in the moment and asking the Lord what He wants."

**Deacon Roman Acero-Molina** is from Bogotá, Colombia. He is the eldest son of Flor Molina de Acero and the late Luis Acero and was born in 1967. He has four younger siblings. He became actively involved in his parish during his adolescence in catechesis, youth ministry, and liturgy. He was a high school religion and philosophy teacher in Colombia for 9 years, a job that opened up his intellectual and spiritual life. He affiliated with the Diocese of Raleigh in 2002, has studied theology at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, and completed his pastoral year internship at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Newton Grove. Acero believes

that the Gospel has very specific answers for the questions of people living in today's world. During his time in North Carolina, he has been particularly moved by the conditions of immigrant workers. "They are oppressed," he says. "Poverty, discrimination — it's an enormous challenge for our Diocese. But with God's help, I'm ready to respond to the needs of His people."

►► In the July NC Catholics, read more about our newest priests and see photos of their Ordination.



### "Listen. God will tell you." An interview with Brother Gregory Plow, TOR.

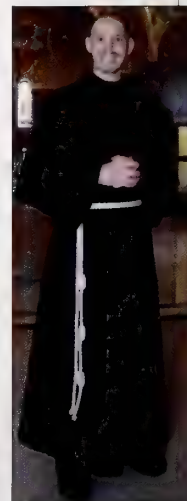
►► On May 24, Brother Gregory Plow, TOR, who grew up in the Diocese of Raleigh, will be ordained to the priesthood. In March, he spoke with NC Catholics about his spiritual journey.

**Tell me about your family and education. Didn't you go to St. Thomas More grade school? Search retreats?** I was born and raised in Chapel Hill. I began attending public school. After my parents separated and divorced, I started attending St. Thomas More Catholic School in Chapel Hill in the second grade. I stayed there until sixth grade, which was the highest grade it had at the time. I then attended Phillips Middle School and Chapel Hill High School. I then attended UNCW (in Wilmington) where I majored in mathematics with a concentration in secondary education and two minors:

statistics and art history. When I was in high school, I did attend Search 79, which was instrumental in my becoming conscious of God's existence and love in a personal, communal and ecclesial way.

**When did you start to think about religious life/priesthood? Why? Was there a particular person or incident that influenced you?**

I started discerning my vocation by prayerfully learning about the nature and role of each of various vocations that God gives us in the Church to achieve sanctity. This began in the summer of 1997 when I, to the surprise of many who knew me (and even myself to a certain extent), decided to



**Continued on page 26 ►**





# Married Love:

A sign of Jesus' love for us

**O**n two consecutive Sundays, April 27 and May 6, the Diocese of Raleigh honored married life and love with special Masses offered by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge in Raleigh and New Bern for couples married 25, 50, or 50-plus years. This was the second year for special marriage anniversary Masses in the diocese, reinforcing the U.S. Bishops' National Pastoral Initiative for Marriage (NPIM).

In November 2004, the U.S. Bishops voted overwhelmingly to make marriage a priority. They launched NPIM, a multi-year effort to communicate the meaning and value of married life for the Church and for society. The initiative brings together Catholic teaching and pastoral practice, social science research and the experience of married couples. It will offer guidance and resources, including a pastoral letter, to promote and strengthen marriage. The Bishops' conference will continue its intense work in this area through 2011.

The Bishops want to strengthen marriage as both a human institution and a Christian

sacrament. Specifically, they wish to:

- Offer a Catholic witness to the meaning, value and sanctity of marriage;
- Connect Catholic belief and teaching with current marriage issues;
- Strengthen marriage through the life cycle by listening to the experience of the Christian faithful;
- Work with our fellow citizens to promote marriage-friendly laws, public policies and other social strategies;
- Promote more and better ministries to marriage, particularly in parishes;
- Help couples themselves to witness to the value of marriage;

- Encourage Dioceses, national church organizations and movements to provide leadership and resources on behalf of marriage.

The Bishops are acting now because marriage, as an institution, has suffered in recent years. The persistent high rate of divorce, rapid rise of non-marital cohabitation and falling marriage rate testify to its social decline. In addition, the issue of same-sex unions has produced heated debate about the nature and purposes of marriage. This is a critical moment to join with others who seek to strengthen marriage. The Bishops believe the Catholic Church can make a distinct contribution to shaping public awareness about the value of marriage.

Activities undertaken by the initiative include:

- focus groups with married couples (including interfaith couples), separated or divorced persons, single young adults and couples in a second marriage;
- focus groups with priests;
- dialogues with social scientists and theologians;
- consultation on "best practices" for marriage preparation and marriage enrichment;
- national research project on Catholics' understanding of marriage.

In addition, the Bishops are developing a pastoral letter on marriage. (Reports on most of these activities are on the Web site [www.usccb.org/npim](http://www.usccb.org/npim).)

Work will also continue with diocesan offices and national groups, including seminaries, colleges and universities, to promote and improve pastoral ministries that strengthen marriage and family life. There will be particular emphasis on ministries and outreach that can take place in parishes.

At the wedding anniversary Masses in the Diocese of Raleigh, Bishop Burbidge spoke of the Holy Father's concern for the health of marriage in the U.S. "In his recent pastoral visit to the United States," the bishop said, "our Holy Father spoke often of the many blessings our country

**Continued on page 27 ►**



## Dear NCC:

### Do embryos have souls?

People are sometimes surprised to hear the wrongness of destroying a human embryo does *not* ultimately depend on when that embryo might become a person, or when he or she might receive a soul from God. They often suppose the Catholic Church teaches that destroying human embryos is unacceptable because such embryos are persons (or are “ensouled”). While it is true that the Church teaches that the intentional and direct destruction

What a human embryo actually is, even at its earliest and most undeveloped stage, **already makes it the only kind of entity capable of receiving the gift of an immortal soul from the hand of God.**

of human embryos is always immoral, it would be incorrect to conclude that the Church teaches that zygotes (a single-cell embryo) or

other early-stage embryos are persons, or that they already have immortal, rational souls. The magisterium of the Church has never definitively stated when the ensoulment of the human embryo takes place. It remains an open question. *The Declaration on Procured Abortion* from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in 1974 phrases the matter with considerable precision:

►► This declaration expressly leaves aside the question of the moment when the spiritual soul is infused. There is not a unanimous tradition on this point and authors are as yet in disagreement. For some it dates from the first instant; for others it could not at least precede nidation [implantation in the uterus]. It is not within the competence of science to decide between these views, because the existence of an immortal soul is not a question in its field. It is a philosophical problem from which our moral affirmation remains independent.

That being said, the moral teaching of the Church is that the human embryo must be treated *as if* it were already ensouled, even if it might not yet be so. It must be treated *as if* it were a person from the moment of conception, even if there exists the theoretical possibility that it might not yet be so. Why this rather subtle, nuanced position, instead of simply declaring outright that zygotes are ensouled,

## Dear NCC

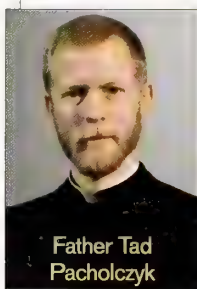
This month with  
Father Tad Pacholczyk

and therefore are persons? First, because there has never been a unanimous tradition on this point; and second, because the precise timing of ensoulment/personhood of the human embryo is irrelevant to the question of whether or not we may ever destroy such embryos for research or other purposes.

Interestingly, ensoulment has been discussed for centuries, and so-called *delayed ensoulment* was probably the norm for most of Christian history, with *immediate ensoulment* gaining some serious momentum of its own beginning in the 1600s (and representing the position most widely held today). St. Augustine seemed to shift his opinion back and forth during his lifetime between immediate and delayed ensoulment. In the 1200s, St. Thomas Aquinas held that human ensoulment occurred not right at the first instant, but at a time-point removed from the beginning. This, he argued, would enable the matter of the embryo to undergo development and become “apt” for the reception of an immortal soul from God (by passing through simpler initial stages involving “vegetative” and “animative” souls). Even today in various quarters, the discussions continue, with new embryological details like twinning and chimerization impinging upon the debate, and new conceptual questions arising from the intricate biology surrounding totipotency and pluripotency.

We must recognize that it is God’s business as to precisely *when* he ensouls embryos. We do not need an answer to this fascinating and speculative theological question, like counting angels on the head of a pin, in order to grasp the fundamental truth that human embryos are inviolable and deserving of unconditional respect at every stage of their existence. Rather, this moral affirmation follows directly on the heels of the scientific data regarding early human development, which affirms that every person on the face of the planet is, so to speak, an “overgrown embryo.” Hence, it is not necessary to know exactly *when* God ensouls the embryo, because, as I sometimes point out in half-jest, even if it were true that an embryo did not receive his or her soul until graduating from law school, that would not make it OK to kill him or her by forcibly extracting tissues or organs prior to graduation.

Human embryos are already beings that are hu-



Father Tad  
Pacholczyk

— Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)



man (not zebra or plant), and are, in fact, the newest and most recent additions to the human family. They are integral beings structured for maturation along their proper time line. Any destructive action against them as they move along the continuum of their development disrupts the entire future time line of that person. In other words, the embryo exists as whole, living member of the human species, and when destroyed, that particular individual has perished. Every human embryo, thus, is unique and sacrosanct, and should not be cannibalized for stem cell extraction.

What a human embryo actually is, even at its earliest and most undeveloped stage, already makes it the only kind of entity capable of receiving the gift of an immortal soul from the hand of God. No other animal or plant embryo can receive this gift; indeed, no other entity in the universe can receive this gift. Hence, the early human embryo is never merely biological tissue, like a group of liver cells in a petri dish; at a minimum, such an embryo, with all its internal structure and directionality, represents the privileged sanctuary of one meant to develop as a human person.

Some scientists and philosophers will attempt to argue that if an early embryo might not yet have received its immortal soul from God, it must be OK to destroy that embryo for research since he or she would not yet be a person. But it would actually be the reverse; that is to say, it would be *more immoral* to destroy an embryo that had not yet received an immortal soul than to destroy an ensouled embryo. Why? Because the immortal soul is the principle by which that person could come to an eternal destiny with God in heaven, so the one who destroyed the embryo, in this scenario, would preclude that young human from ever receiving an immortal soul (or becoming a person) and making his or her way to God. This would be the gravest of evils, as the stem cell researcher would forcibly derail the entire eternal design of God over that unique and unrepeatable person, via an action that would be, in some sense, worse than murder. The human person, then, even in his or her most incipient form as an embryonic human being, must always be safeguarded in an absolute and unconditional way, and speculation about the timing of personhood cannot alter this fundamental truth.

**Send your questions to:**  
**"Since you asked ..."**

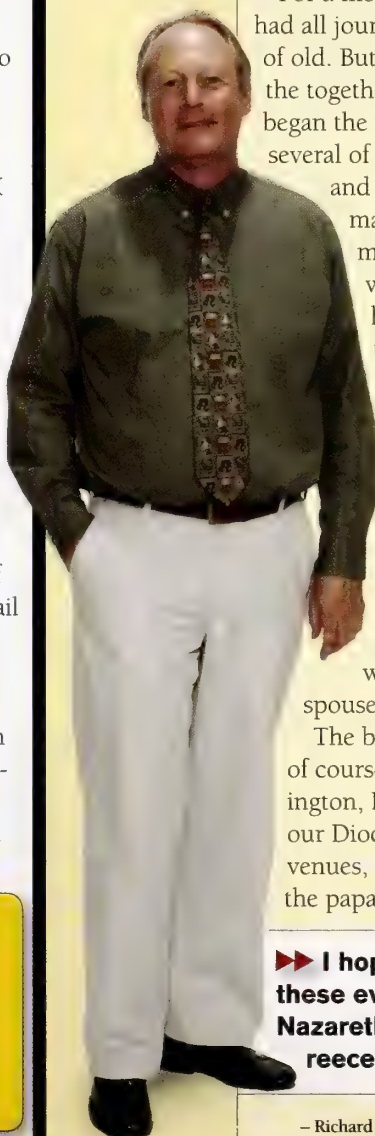
715 Nazareth St.  
 Raleigh, NC 27606

**Or:**

reece@raldioc.org

## A Special Day

**Our souls  
 are nurtured  
 when we turn  
 to heaven as  
 a community.**



**T**he Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., is a large church. Seeing it filled in April with more than 1,500 faithful from our own Diocese – men, women and children who had come as pilgrims to honor our Diocesan patroness – was a stirring, inspiring experience. The music, the glorious architectural setting and the beautiful liturgy all played a part, but, to me, the most affecting element of the pilgrimage was the sense of solidarity. We, Catholics from all over eastern North Carolina, were worshipping *together* as the culmination of a journey we had undertaken *together* for reasons we shared. Many of us know the feeling of parish community, but the sense of *Diocesan* community on that day was special.

For a moment, I wondered how it might have been if we had all journeyed there on foot, like the European pilgrims of old. But even in an air-conditioned bus, one could sense the togetherness. At one point, the pilgrims on my bus began the rosary. A woman across the aisle, noticing that several of us didn't have rosaries, reached into her bag and distributed some knotted prayer circlets she had made. I sat beside a mother of teenagers, who told me that her youngsters were at the age where they weren't always too enthusiastic about church. She had come on the pilgrimage "to take a break, and to be with people who are happy to be Catholic." And we were. Our souls are nurtured when we turn to heaven as a community.

A few weeks later, I had the chance to talk with couples at our Bishop's Masses for those celebrating 25, 50 and more than 50 years of marriage. If there was a common denominator in the couples with whom I spoke, it was a sense of humor. And though they were very cordial, it was clear that the humor wasn't for me – it was something gentle and genuine between the spouses, and it was a habit.

The biggest recent event in our Church in the U.S., of course, was the visit of Pope Benedict XVI to Washington, D.C., and to New York City. Several people from our Diocese were fortunate enough to see him at those venues, and their reflections are part of the coverage of the papal visit in this issue.

**►► I hope you'll send me your own thoughts on these events and on this issue of NCC. I'm at 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.**

– Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.



# holy orders:

## 1 sacrament – 3 degrees

**B**y baptism, all the faithful are called to share in the three-fold mission of Christ as priest, prophet and servant of the kingdom. But while we all have a share in this mission, some are called to the sacrament of holy orders. “This sacrament configures the recipient to Christ by a special grace of the Holy Spirit, so that he may serve as Christ’s instrument for his Church” (CCC 1581). The ministerial priesthood is at the service of the common priesthood of believers (CCC 1547). It is a means by which Christ unceasingly builds up and leads his Church.

### What does ‘order’ mean?

In ancient Rome, the word “order” designated an established civil or governing body. *Ordinatio* meant incorporation into an *ordo*. Today, the word “ordination” is directed toward the sacramental act which incorporates a man into holy orders.

## timeline: history of the sacrament

### Old Testament

- Old covenant priests had duties within the community pertaining to cult and culture. Of note are Melchizedek, (“priest of God most High”) king of Salem, who brought out bread and wine for Abram (Genesis 14); the priesthood of Aaron and the Levites (Leviticus 8, 21); and the institution of the 70 elders (Numbers 11).



### New Testament

- Jesus establishes the Church and remains its great High Priest (Letter to

- Hebrews).
- He calls disciples to follow him, including Peter, the “rock,” on whom he would build his Church.
- Seven Hellenist leaders were chosen by people to do charitable work (*diakonia*); apostles pray and lay hands on them (Acts 6).
- James and elders (*presbyteroi*) preach in Jerusalem.
- Timothy and Titus establish local leaders, presbyters, and overseers (*episkopoi*).



- Major decisions are made by a council under the influence of the Holy Spirit (Acts 15).

### Early Church

- 96 St. Clement of Rome writes of succession of ministers from the apostles; the orders of Bishop, priest and deacon.
- 100 St. Ignatius of Antioch promotes a threefold ministry of overseer (bishop), presbyter (priest) and deacon. Bishop is chief teacher of his church; Baptism and Eucharist are celebrated with the Bishop.
- 215 Apostolic Tradition

notes the role of the community in calling forth leadership and contains an Ordination Rite, with the laying on of hands and prayers for the gifts of the Spirit. Some of these prayers are still used. 404 Pope Innocent I stated priests and deacons are called to be celibate.

### 3-7th centuries

- Increased importance of presbyters – less advisory to the Bishop, priest as the leader of the sacrifice of the Mass and prayer and representative of the Bishop in the local community. Priest as the leader of the sacrifice of the Mass and prayer and





## In the person of Christ, the Head of the Church

A priest or bishop serves in *persona Christi* (in the person of Christ), *capitis ecclesiae* (the head of the Church). The latter does not mean that he is a mere delegate of the community. The prayer and offering of the Church are inseparable from the prayer and offering of Christ – we offer our prayers “through Him, with Him, in Him.”

## The rite of ordination

The rites vary slightly, but the essential “matter and form” for each is the same – the laying on of hands and the prayer of consecration. Like baptism and confirmation, the sacrament of holy orders confers an indelible spiritual character – it cannot be repeated nor be conferred temporarily.

Remembering that as the baptized we all share in the priesthood of Christ, pray daily for our ordained priests. For through them and the sacraments they confer, God continues to save His people, strengthening them with His grace and making possible holiness of life.



## 3 Degrees of holy orders

**1 Bishop** In unbroken succession from the apostles, a bishop exercises a ministry of preaching and teaching, sanctifying, governing (CCC 1558). As Christ's vicar, each bishop has the pastoral care of a particular Church entrusted to him, but he also serves with all bishops in the Episcopal College of which the pope is head. The “fullness of the sacrament” of holy orders resides in the episcopacy.

**2 Priest** A minister of God's word, a minister of the sacraments, and a pastoral guide of the community. He exercises his role in communion with the bishop and in union with the presbyterate of the diocese.

**3 Deacon** is a minister of the Liturgy of the Word and of charity (*diakonia*). He serves with the Bishop and priests. **2 types of deacons:** The **transitional deacon** serves until he is ordained a priest. The **permanent deacon** is a married or unmarried man who remains a deacon. He may baptize, witness a marriage, preach and assist at liturgies, and preside at funerals.

## Development of holy orders

representative of the Bishop in the local community.

- Role of deacons was reduced. Order seen as transition to priesthood.
- Bishops become more involved with administrative and judicial responsibilities.

### 8th-15th centuries

- Emphasis on power of priest to consecrate body and blood of Christ and administer other sacraments.
- Holy orders recognized as one of seven sacraments.
- Seven orders develop: porter, exorcist, lector, acolyte, sub-deacon, deacon, priest.
- Understanding of clerical hierarchy (bishop, priest, deacon) and the laity which reflects divinely ordered structure of universe.
- Ordination rites more formally developed with the

Gregorian Sacramentary.

- Some clergy held other jobs; education of clergy improves.
- Lateran Council II (1139) declares holy orders an impediment to marriage.

### 16th-20th centuries

**Council of Trent (1548-1563)**

- 1 Defended the existence of priesthood with the authority to consecrate the Body and Blood of Christ and to absolve sins in the name of Christ.
- 2 Confirmed Holy Orders as one of the seven sacraments.
- 3 Reaffirmed the call to celibacy.
- 4 Confined bishops to their own territories.
- 5 **Mandated that priests be educated in seminaries.**
- 6 Defended hierarchical orders; bishops are

superior to priests.

- 7 Upheld the distinction between ordained and other baptized.
- 8 Gave directives on preaching and pastoral care.

**1947 Pius XII** declares “laying on of hands” to be a constitutive element in the Rite of Ordination.

**Vatican II (1961-1965)**

The Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (1964), the Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests (1965), and the Decree on the Pastoral Office of Bishops in the Church (1965) relate ordained ministry to Christ and to the priesthood of all the faithful. They define more clearly the role of bishop, priest, and deacon.

**1967 Sacramentum Diaconatus Ordinem** establishes canonical norms

for the permanent diaconate

**1968 Revised rites of ordination** established.

**The matter and form of the sacrament of holy orders:**

**Matter:** laying on of hands

**Form:** consecratory prayer

**1972 Paul VI** writes an apostolic letter laying down norms about deacons. Allows lay people to be readers and acolytes – distributors of holy Communion at Mass. **1992 John Paul II** In an apostolic letter summarizes the role of the priest: “From the love of the Father, the grace of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit's gift of unity, the priest sacramentally enters into communion with the Bishop and with other priests in order to serve the People of God who are the Church and to draw all mankind to Christ.”





## Playing it by the rules

St. Matthias the Apostle

**Feast day: May 14**

**Patron saint of alcoholism and carpenters**

**Meaning of name: Gift of the Lord**

**Claim to fame:** After Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus, the apostles felt they needed to replace him. They chose two men, one of them St. Matthias, and cast lots to see who God would choose. St. Matthias won, and became one of the Twelve. He had been a follower of Jesus from the time of Jesus' baptism. Beyond this, not much is known about St. Matthias, although he is briefly mentioned in Scriptures as going to Ethiopia to spread the Gospel to barbarians and cannibals. Many stories about St. Matthias exist, although none of them have authenticated basis. His life is often confused with the lives of other disciples, including Matthias, bishop of Jerusalem, and Matthew, the Gospel writer.

**Why he is a saint:** St. Matthias stayed loyal to Jesus, even while others abandoned him at the end of his life. Unlike many, he was not scared off when Jesus told his disciples to eat his body. The apostles saw this, and chose him as a candidate to replace Judas because they felt his heart was strong enough to witness to the resurrection and face the persecution that would come.

**Best quote:** St. Matthias often preached about how the body could lead to sin. A quote attributed him is, "We must combat our flesh, set no value upon it, and concede to it nothing that can flatter it, but rather increase the growth of our soul by faith and knowledge."

**How he died:** There are two variations of the story about St. Matthias' death. One legend says he was crucified in Ethiopia. Another says St. Matthias was stoned to death in Judea, and that St. Helena brought his relics to Rome. Neither story is known to be true, although the second is generally more widely accepted.



## San Matías el Apóstol

**Día festivo: 14 de mayo**

**Santo patrono del alcoholismo y de los carpinteros**

**Significado del nombre: Don de Dios**

**Hechos que lo hicieron famoso:** Luego que Judas Iscariote traicionó a Jesús, los apóstoles pensaron que necesitaban sustituirlo. Escogieron a dos hombres, uno de ellos Matías y echaron a suertes para ver a quién escogería Dios. Matías ganó y se hizo uno de los Doce. Fue un seguidor de Jesús desde el tiempo del bautizo de Jesús. Más allá de esto, no se sabe mucho acerca de Matías después de esto, aunque brevemente se menciona su marcha a Etiopía a difundir el Evangelio a los bárbaros y canibales. Existen muchas historias acerca de Matías, aunque ninguna de ellas tiene una base histórica y su vida a menudo se confunde con la vida de otros discípulos, Matías, obispo de Jerusalén, y Mateo, el escritor del Evangelio inclusive.

**Por qué es un santo:** San Matías permaneció fiel a Jesús, aún cuando otros le abandonaron al final de su vida. A diferencia de muchos, él no se atemorizó cuando Jesús les dijo a sus discípulos que comieran su cuerpo. Los apóstoles vieron esto, y lo escogieron como un candidato a sustituir a Judas, porque pensaron que su corazón era lo suficientemente fuerte como para atestiguar la Resurrección de Cristo y enfrentar la persecución que vendría.

**Mejor cita:** San Matías a menudo predicaba acerca de cómo el cuerpo podría llevar al pecado. Hay una cita sobre esta materia que se le atribuye. «Debemos combatir nuestra carne, no poner ningún valor en ella, ni concederle nada que pueda halagarla, sino más bien aumentar el crecimiento de nuestra alma por medio de la fe y la sabiduría».

**Cómo murió:** Hay dos versiones de la muerte de Matías. Una leyenda dice que fue crucificado en Etiopía. Otra dice que San Matías fue apedreado a muerte en Judea, y que Santa Helena llevó sus reliquias a Roma. Ninguna de las dos historias se conoce como cierta, aunque la segunda generalmente es la más ampliamente aceptada.

**"Give life, donate!" The American Red Cross was founded in what year?**

▶▶ As a 127-year-old organization, the American Red Cross was established on **May 21, WHAT YEAR?**

▶▶ At the time it was built, San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge was the largest suspension bridge in the world. It is now the world's second



largest and channels up to six lanes of traffic. This California monument opened on **May 27, WHAT YEAR?**

▶▶ Poland native, Karol Wojtyla, who took the name of John Paul II when elected pope, was born on **May 18, WHAT YEAR?**

▶▶ Pope John XXI died when his castle ceiling collapsed on him on **May 20, WHAT YEAR?** His name was a mistake though. There never was a "John XX."



## Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver

**T**he Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver inaugurated the first council of their order in the Diocese of Raleigh with the permission of Bishop Michael Burbidge on April 19. This is a Catholic action group founded by four Josephite priests and three laymen in Mobile, Ala., in 1909. It is the nation's largest African-American Catholic lay organization, with 1,000 units in 39 states.

The order is named after St. Peter Claver, a Jesuit priest who ministered to the slaves in Cartagena, Colombia. This seaport was part of the "Middle Passage," where approximately 1,000 slaves landed every month.

The order's membership is comprised of Catholic family members and clergy, including the hierarchy of the Catholic Church. The order is open to all practicing Catholics and has members of various ethnic and racial groups. The local order, in its founding reflects, this diversity.

Some of the objectives of the order are to be a staunch supporter of the bishop of the diocese and its pastors and to encourage lay apostolic action. The order has aligned with the the National Black Catholic Congress to establish a pro-life movement within the black community.

The order also supports Xavier University in New Orleans, established by Saint Katherine Drexel. The United Negro College Fund is also supported by the Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver, and it sponsors the "Tree of Life" Foundation to aid the relief and cure of persons with Alzheimer's Disease and to enhance and increase religious vocations.

The order donated \$100,000 for the construction of the Shrine to Our Lady of Africa in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, where so many faithful of our Diocese recently made a pilgrimage.

The order meets at Sacred Heart Cathedral, and all of the Cathedral clergy are members.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden

## Aniversario matrimonial

**C**elebrar un aniversario en la vida de una pareja es darle la oportunidad al Sacramento del matrimonio de reconocer que no solamente fue una promesa o una alianza humana, sino que Dios ha estado en la vida de la pareja a través de los días, los meses y los años, bendiciéndolos y construyendo un puente hacia la eternidad.

Es poder ver que no solo ha transcurrido el tiempo, sino que ha pasado una vida de amor en momentos de fidelidad, servicio y entrega. Donde no solo han cambiado los rostros de los jóvenes en adultos, mayores o ancianos, sino que ha sido la comunicación que ha transformado los rostros en personas que se han conocido en la entrega, el compartir y el servir.

Es alegrarse de no seguir siendo "el" y "ella" sino ser ahora "nosotros", los hijos, los nietos y todo aquello que los hace pensar en la comunidad familiar.

Es celebrar que el tiempo ha hecho de sus vidas una vocación, donde Dios es parte de los diferentes momentos y de los diferentes sentimientos que han producido frutos de caridad, amistad y solidaridad.

Es comprender que no se han unido para tener una casa sino para formar un hogar. No se han unido para construir una fortuna en la tierra, sino para conquistar un tesoro en el cielo. Y no se han unido para evitar estar solos, sino para construir una comunidad de amor.

Celebrar un aniversario es reconocer y valorar el "ayer" con el que empezaron, el "hoy" que tienen la oportunidad de vivir y prepararse a ser mejores para el "mañana" que el buen Dios les concederá.

Celebrar un aniversario es dar gracias a Dios por las bendiciones con las que ha guiado la vida matrimonial, por los momentos en que ha sanado los corazones heridos por el mal y es el signo a través del cual vemos a Cristo ofreciéndose por su Iglesia para amarla y santificarla en todos los tiempos hasta la eternidad.

— Padre Fernando Torres





**M**argaret and Mike have been married for 15 years and have three children. They disagree about whether or not Sunday Mass attendance is really important.

## Mass is important to our family

### she says

**Margaret says:** Going to Mass is very important to me and to our family. It's our moral obligation as Catholics and we need the Eucharist to strengthen our faith. We should all be going together, but Mike refuses. He stays home and reads the paper on Sundays, which is setting a terrible example for the children. How can I make him live up to the obligations of his faith?

## It's not important to me

### he says

**Mike says:** Look, I understand that Margaret likes church, but for the life of me, I can't see why. I find it boring and unnecessary. I can pray at home. I have no objection to her taking the kids on Sundays, but I'm an adult – I can make my own decisions.

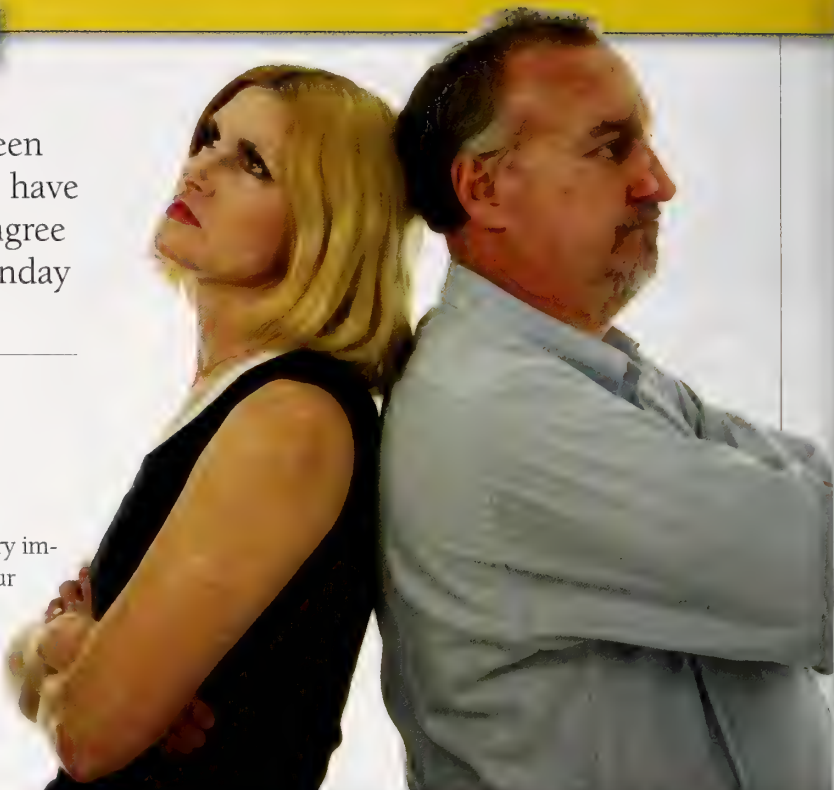
### what do they do?

If you have looked around church on a typical Sunday, you will see more mothers with their children than fathers with their children. When asked about it, most of the fathers give the same answer and have the same thought process as Mike does. Without question, if Mike's boss at work said we are all (as a work group) going to gather at 9 a.m. to thank the corporation for providing us work, benefits and paychecks, most would not question it. Primarily because most understand we can not accomplish much in the work place without being part of a team – without being part of the work community. The same is true with "church." We are a community and when we worship, we come to give thanks for our blessings and to support each other. Church is as much about relationships with others as is the work community. Once we understand the dynamics of relationship, the more value will be put on attending the formal church.

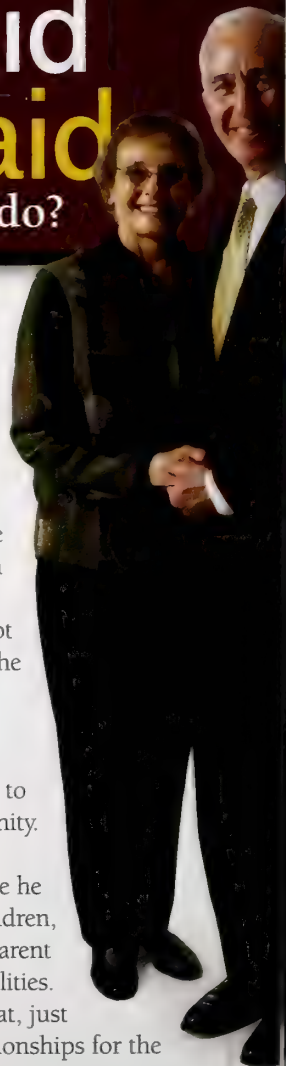
It might help if Mike understood the reasons why his home is called a "domestic church." It would help him understand and place a value on the larger community he presently calls church and it would help him understand the important role he plays in passing on the faith to his children. We agree that Mike is an adult, but that has responsibilities attached to it,

just like it has benefits. Yes, he can make his own decisions, but, as a father and husband, he does not have the luxury to thinking of only himself. He has an active role to play in the teaching of his children and in providing a proper role model. As a Christian parent, Mike does not have the freedom to "opt out" of his proper role to his children and his wife. The Christian faith is passed on from one generation to another primarily within the home and not through some formal classroom setting. The father and mother are the principal teachers of their children, and it is up to both parents to ensure the faith is passed on by setting a proper example of what it means to be a Christian and a member of a community. Children learn by watching their parents' behavior. It is important for Mike to realize he and Margaret are role models for their children, whether they want to be or not. Neither parent can abdicate their roles or their responsibilities.

It might help also for Mike to know that, just like in his marriage relationship (all relationships for the



He said  
She said  
what do they do?





## Sound policy

**W**hether it's in your wallet, it's nearly always on your mind. Money — and how to manage it — is a topic many of us wrestle with daily. NCC turned to Ted Zale, a veteran financial adviser for some practical pocketbook advice. Here are 10 tips that can help you today:

►► Yeah, you know you need life insurance. It's just so, well . . . boring and confusing. Whole life. Term life. Universal life. Zzzzz . . . HEY, wake up! Allow Zale to take the mystery and monotony out of protecting your loved ones. Step one: Buy term life insurance. Step two: See Step One. "We tell all our clients to buy cheap term insurance as opposed to whole life policies," Zale says. "Insurance companies, bless them, are in business to make money. But whole life, at best, might give you 3 percent a year as an investment return and for the first 10 or 15 years, there's no benefit." This is insurance, not an investment. Take the money you save



from your cheaper term premium and invest that in a mutual fund to yield a much greater return. How much coverage do you need? Zale counsels his clients to buy enough to settle their debts — with a little wiggle room — when they die. "Buy only as much as you need to cover yourself," he said. "You want to cover your debts, especially your mortgage, and provide for your spouse and your children."

matter), you will get back what you give. If you give nothing, you get nothing back! If Mike is getting nothing out of going to church, he most likely is not putting anything into it. I know that sounds harsh, but the truth sometimes hurts.

We believe that, with a little bit of education and rational discussion, Mike would see the value. There is a value proposition here and we believe Mike has just not made the connection yet.

— Tom and JoAnne Fogle

## Whose age is more important, yours or your child's?

### Parenting in any generation



It's delightful to watch the emerging sense of self-awareness as babies become toddlers.

**D**uring the collection at Mass, young children come down the aisles to drop off their coins and items for the food pantry. Observing the parents holding little hands, I am struck by how much variation there is in the timing of parenthood. In recent decades, many individuals choose to finish school, or establish careers before marriage. More women give birth in their late 30s and their 40s than in the past. Others parents are younger — having had their first children in their 20s, or even teens. The parents may be from GenX or GenY, but they face similar challenges. When it comes to parenting issues, the child's age is more important than yours!

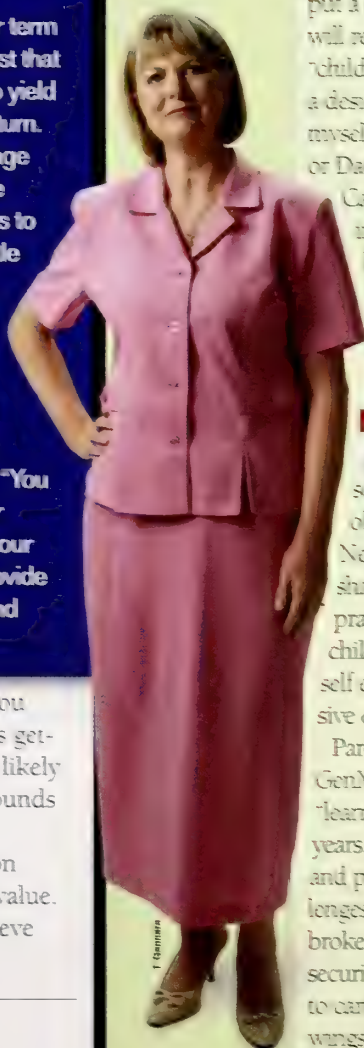
### Clotho yourselves with patience!

It's delightful to watch the emerging sense of self-awareness as babies become toddlers. Suddenly there is a "me" and things become "mine" — all part of the growing sense of self. If you put a new hat on her head and she notices it in a mirror, she will reach up to touch her own head rather than reach for the "child" in the mirror. With this understanding comes autonomy: a desire to make decisions about one's own actions. "Do it myself" becomes a common chant, which then requires Mom or Dad to have earlier starting times for the simplest of errands. Caring for a young child becomes embodied prayer, requiring stores of patience. "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience" (Col. 3:12). Establish routines so that transitions from one activity to another are clear and there is predictability.

### New emotions, pride and shame.

New emotions can be seen as he looks proudly at a sock that is halfway on a foot or is embarrassed because an older child has informed him that he has fat "baby" crayons. Negative comments tend to hinder exploration and produce shame. On the other hand, it isn't necessary to excessively praise throughout the day! It is fine to acknowledge the child's intrinsic enjoyment of his work with a smile. In fact, self-esteem often comes from self-evaluation rather than excessive external praise.

Parents are said to give their children both roots and wings. GenXers will remember the Mr. Mister song, *Broken Wings*: "learn to fly again, learn to live so free . . ." During the toddler years, roots are stretching downward. With increasing mobility and poor decision-making skills, young children encounter challenges throughout the day. Parents keep their wings from getting broken by guiding them as autonomy emerges. The warmth and security of the parent-child bond that is being formed is going to carry them throughout childhood and adolescence until their wings are ready for them to soar. — Dr. Cathleen McGreal





# NC Catholics Travel to See Pope Be





# edict XVI



**T**he apostolic visit of Pope Benedict XVI to the United States provided American Catholics and the entire country with an opportunity to learn more about the Holy Father, who celebrated his third anniversary as Pope during his six-day visit.

Approximately 200 Catholics from the Diocese of Raleigh participated in the various events in Washington, D.C., and New York City. One hundred diocesan faithful joined the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge and approximately 30 priests of the Diocese at the papal Mass held at Nationals Park in the nation's capital. Fifty recipients of tickets were present for the papal Mass in New York City, along with 15 Diocesan seminarians. The seminarians were also present at the papal youth rally and prayer service at Saint Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, N.Y. In addition, Father Anthony De Candia and Father Marco Antonio Gonzalez-Hernandez were among hundreds of priests who con-celebrated Mass with the Holy Father at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

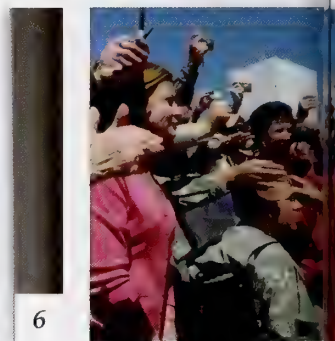
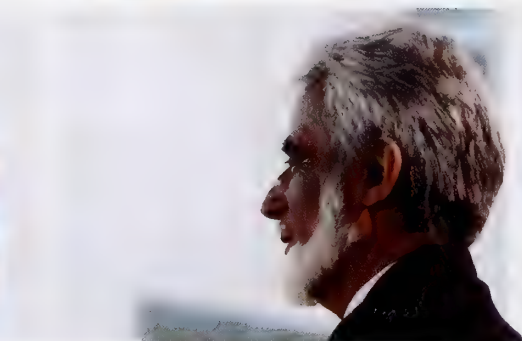
Bishop Burbidge called the Holy Father's visit one of "great enthusiasm and great joy" that went beyond expectations. "He came preaching a message of hope," Bishop Burbidge said, commenting on Pope Benedict's confronting the clergy child sex abuse crisis. In discussing hope, the Bishop said, "We also have to admit the darkness that is in our midst. He is very aware of the darkness." Bishop Burbidge added, "How does healing take place? Through an acknowledgement."

As he reflected on the apostolic visit, the Bishop said, "This is a time of great renewal." He noted, "The Holy Father brought us back to the foundations of our faith and to the priorities we must have in our lives; that our eyes are found not just here on earthly things, but on that which is above."

The Bishop added that the pope's visit "renewed us in our commitment to serve Christ Jesus, to serve his Church and to serve those in most need, enthusiastically, sincerely, boldly proclaiming that Jesus is the reason for our hope and for our joy."

*At left: Pope Benedict XVI waves as he arrives to celebrate Mass at Nationals Park in Washington April 17.*





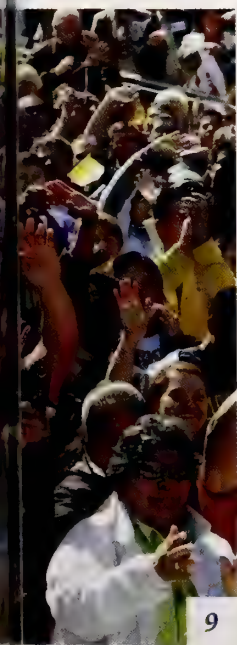




4



7



9

1. Pope Benedict XVI arrives at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, just outside of Washington, April 15. The pontiff was beginning his first visit as Pope to the United States.
2. Pope Benedict XVI walks with President George W. Bush to the Oval Office at the White House in Washington April 16.
3. Pope Benedict XVI gives an address during a ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House April 16.
4. Pope Benedict XVI arrives by popemobile at the Basilica of National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception April 16 to join the U.S. bishops in a vespers service.
5. Pope Benedict XVI blows out a candle on a birthday cake presented to him at the White House April 16 when he turned 81. His birthday took place on the second day of his U.S. visit and was marked with several celebrations.
6. Sayyid M. Syeed, secretary general of the Islamic Society of North America, greets Pope Benedict XVI during an interfaith gathering at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington April 17.
7. Pope Benedict XVI blesses Sgt. Ronald E. Frye at the conclusion of Mass at Nationals Park in Washington April 17.
8. At the United Nations headquarters in New York on April 18, Pope Benedict XVI reaches to touch a U.N. flag and pray in memory of the U.N. peace keepers who have perished in the line of duty.
9. People in the stands wave as Pope Benedict XVI leaves Nationals Park after celebrating Mass in Washington April 17.

## Bishop Burbidge on the U.S. visit of the Holy Father

**Bishop, now that the event is past, what was your overall impression?** Absolutely a sense of great enthusiasm and joy, with moments of true inspiration. We in the U.S. were waiting for the Holy Father, to see him up close. But his visit was beyond expectations. And it was wonderful to see how he responded: He seemed pleased and more and more energized as the days went on.

**The theme of his visit was "Christ our hope," yet he dealt very explicitly with the clergy child sex abuse crisis. Were you surprised?** He had to deal with the issue. He came preaching Christ our hope and our light, but when we proclaim that good news we also have to acknowledge that there is darkness. How does healing take place? Acknowledgment. Through the ability to repeat words of shame sorrow, but then to proclaim that there is still reason for hope, healing and reconciliation.

**You noted in a TV interview that he spoke with compassion to the U.S. Bishops. Yes.** He is a Bishop himself, and he knows the challenges, demands, responsibilities of that role. He understands that people's expectations of Bishops may be different now than in the past. So he spoke as a father who wanted to lift us up, and I think all of my brother Bishops would agree that we left there renewed.

**Wasn't the need for renewed hope his message?** Yes. And where do we seek it? The Holy Father's answer was that hope is found only in Christ Jesus and in living the way He taught us.

**He made a point of meeting with educators, Catholic college presidents and school superintendents.** It's no surprise he wanted to meet with them, since certainly in his role now but throughout his career he has always been a teacher – one of the best. And he had a beautiful message. I'm so pleased that our own Superintendent of Catholic Formation and Education, Dr. Fedewa, and the others who attended were thanked by the Holy Father. He was saying to them that what they have done with their lives is a precious gift, and that they should never give up. Nothing should take us from the mission of educating our young.

**The Holy Father connected with students, both at the youth rally at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers and also when he met with 50 disabled children and their caregivers.**

I think we were all brought to tears by his compassion with those children. How could you not be? The message was so clear – that all human life is a gift from God to be treated with great reverence. It was a very powerful moment.

**What do we hope the pope's visit accomplished?** Our hope is that this will begin a time of great renewal, that the Holy Father has brought us back to our foundations, to the priorities in our lives, where we are focused not just on this world but on the life that is to come. And yet we are renewed in our commitment on this earth to serve Jesus, his Church and those most in need, to enthusiastically, sincerely and boldly proclaim Jesus as the reason for our hope and the reason for our joy.





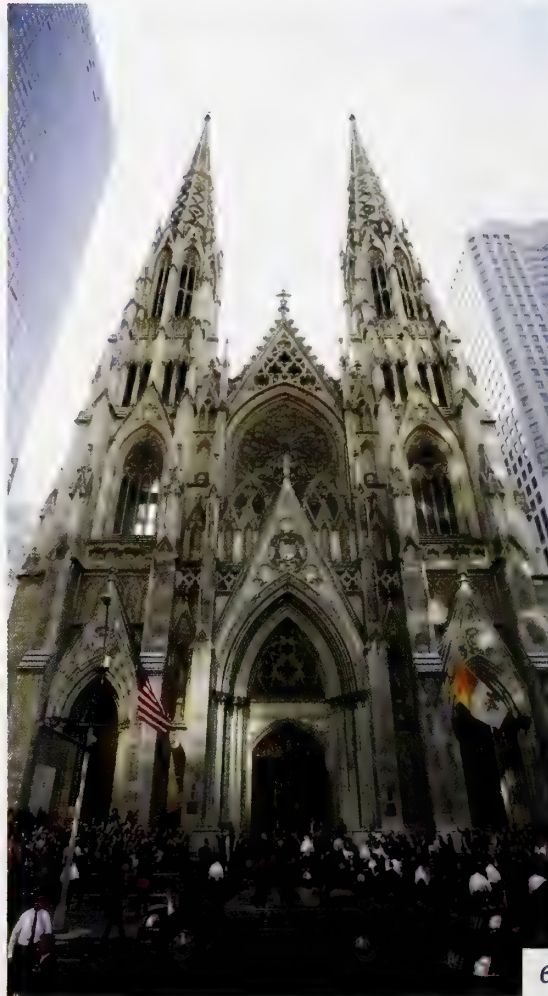
1



3



4



6



5





1. Bishops process to their seats before Pope Benedict XVI celebrates Mass at Nationals Park in Washington April 17.
2. Pope Benedict XVI addresses the General Assembly at U.N. headquarters in New York April 18.
3. Pope Benedict XVI meets the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s daughter, Bernice King, at an ecumenical prayer service at the Church of St. Joseph in New York April 18.
4. Pope Benedict XVI waves to the crowd at John F. Kennedy Airport in New York upon his arrival there April 18.
5. Pope Benedict XVI blesses the crowd during a rally for seminarians and young people at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, April 19.
6. Pope Benedict XVI's limousine arrives for Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York, April 19.
7. Pope Benedict XVI arrives for a rally with young people outside St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, April 19.
8. Pope Benedict XVI reaches out to a girl during a gathering with young people with disabilities at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, April 19.

## Dr. Michael Fedewa on the Holy Father's address to educators at the close of the Holy Father's visit

Dr. Fedewa, Diocesan Superintendent of Catholic Formation and Education, was one of 200 educators addressed by the Holy Father in Washington, D.C.



in our society today. To that end, he urged us to use all the resources necessary to ensure that our schools stay open to all, that our institutions not become elitist. In such a material world, we need to show that there is a better way, to preserve the ideals that sparked Catholic education in its beginnings in this country.

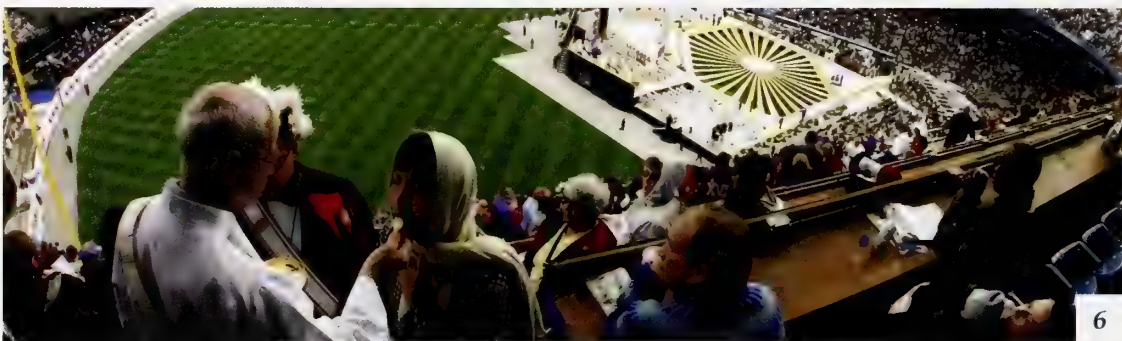
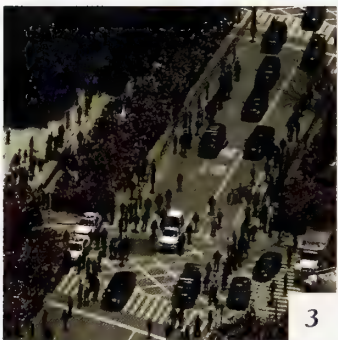
**Dr. Fedewa, what was the Holy Father's message to educators?** He actually had several themes. It was a very systematic, logical talk. His first theme was encouragement. He expressed his gratitude to those who've given their lives to education. Secondly, he wanted us to be aware that the Catholic identity of our institutions is paramount, and that that identity means more than just saying it or building it into a program. It needs to be part of who we are. Finally, he was adamant that we fight the secularism and materialism that are so rampant

**Was it the message the audience expected?** I think when the meeting was first announced, there was some speculation that he'd say some nice things, but then "drop the hammer" on the Catholic identity issue. But it wasn't like that. It was very positive. He said that the truth of our faith is paramount and that we should never stray or be apologetic or bashful about proclaiming it. So it wasn't the Holy Father wagging his finger at us. It was a conversation, and it was inspiring. I'll never forget it.



Above: Pope Benedict XVI addresses Catholic educators gathered at The Catholic University of America in Washington April 17.







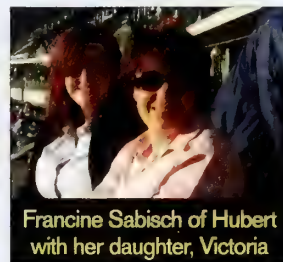
1. Pope Benedict XVI presides at a religious service for the disabled in the chapel at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, April 19.
2. Pope Benedict XVI says a closing prayer during an April 19 Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.
3. The popemobile travels up Fifth Avenue after the pope celebrated Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral.
4. A packed crowd awaits the arrival of Pope Benedict XVI at the papal youth rally at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, April 19.
5. Pope Benedict XVI celebrates Mass at Yankee Stadium in New York April 20.
6. A deacon distributes Holy Communion in the upper deck of Yankee Stadium.
7. Pope Benedict XVI departs in his popemobile after celebrating Mass at Yankee Stadium.
8. Julie Malik was among four survivors of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks who spoke with the pope during a prayer service at Ground Zero.
9. Pope Benedict XVI prays at Ground Zero.
10. Pope Benedict XVI departs the site of the destroyed World Trade Center.
11. Vice President Dick Cheney, his wife, Lynne, Archbishop Pietro Sambi, Cardinal Edward M. Egan and Bishop DiMarzio wave as the plane carrying Pope Benedict XVI departs JFK International Airport April 20.

The most pervasive feeling I had at the Mass was one of being watched, of actually feeling the presence of God looking down on us. I know that whenever we gather at Mass, the real presence of Jesus is always there. It was just never this palpable before. I guess I felt that of all the things Jesus could be doing, of the people he could be watching, he was definitely among the more than 40,000 people with Pope Benedict.

— Jorge and Jo-Ann Davalos, Durham

The high energy I felt at the papal Mass was overwhelming. It was truly wonderful to share pure joy, love and excitement for our Catholic faith and our supreme shepherd with total strangers who share a common bond. It truly was a once in a lifetime experience for me and my 14-year-old daughter, Victoria.

— Francine Sabisch, Hubert



Francine Sabisch of Hubert with her daughter, Victoria

The Mass was the most marvelous day I have spent on earth. When I have watched interviews of participants from prior papal Masses, of how it "moved them", "changed their lives", etc. I thought, "yeah right." I was wrong.

— Mike Oliver



Jackie Huvane of Durham

— Jackie Huvane, Durham

As someone who likes to sit up front at church, as I entered Yankee Stadium, I wondered if this was too big to feel personal. However, even from the upper section, I could feel like I was in the front row and participating in a Mass with Pope Benedict, hearing his homily and the positive message of hope in Christ.

I was on the mall when Pope John Paul II visited Washington, D.C., so many years ago. Our daughter was just a child at the time, but she remembers it clearly. As a person of Polish/German ancestry, it was important for me to attend.

I was not sure how those attending would receive Pope Benedict, as we in America know so little about him. As soon as he appeared, the crowd erupted in thunderous clapping and whistling, joyfully shouting his name and waving flags. There was a flood of tears and the hair on my arms stood on end. He waved to the crowd, wiggling his fingers as though a kindly grandfather, overjoyed to see his grandchildren. He won us over with his genuine smile and approachability.

— Linda McLeskey, Kitty Hawk

...Almost a week later, I am still floating on a cloud and find myself babbling incessantly when people ask me about my trip! A couple of months ago, it was announced at my parish, St. Mark's, that there was a lottery for our diocese for these tickets and that only 100 would be given out. I was so shocked when I learned that our names had been selected! Since my husband knew he wouldn't be able to get out of work, I had the difficult task of choosing one of my three children to go with me. I chose my 11-year old son since he insists that he will one day be a military chaplain. He was ecstatic and started counting down the days with me. The day we were leaving, a local news team came to his school and interviewed him. As excited as we were for the trip, we never could have imagined how wonderful the experience would be.

...I grew up with Pope John Paul II as my pope...it was hard for me to have those same feelings for our new pope. This visit changed that. I know that God chose me and my son for this trip for a reason. Our job now is to spread what we experienced with those we come in contact with. My prayer is that the excitement and enthusiasm generated from this visit will reverberate throughout our country....

— Dawn Neitzey, Wilmington

As I walked out onto the field for the youth rally at St. Joseph's Seminary in New York, my heart skipped a beat! I could not imagine that there were so many young people who were excited about our Holy Father's Visit.





Members of the Goldman family of Raleigh with Sisters of Life and seminarian Patrick McLaughlin.

The majority of the people were 13-30 years old. It was so great to see our Diocese of Raleigh seminarians from St. Charles Borromeo and our friends in the religious orders of Sisters of Life, CFR Sisters and Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. As we walked onto the field, I was amazed to view a very large image of Christ at the center of the stage!

It reminded me of the theme of the papal visit: Christ our Hope! Many times the youth chanted "Christ our hope... Benedict the pope!" When our Holy Father arrived, there was a great jubilation and waving the papal colors of our yellow and white handkerchiefs. We ran with the Sisters of the Renewal to the gate where the popemobile approached. It was so cool to be within five yards of our Holy Father. He looked directly at me and I saw him bless those of us at the fence. He appreciated our rendition of "Happy Birthday" in German; He gave us an A+ on our pronunciation. His words were so amazing and I was so sad to see him go! He left us with these words:

"And what of today? Who bears witness to the good news of Jesus on the streets of New York, in the troubled neighborhoods of large cities, in the places where the young gather, seeking someone on whom they can trust? God is our origin and our destination and Jesus is the Way."

— Benjamin Joseph Goldman, 12, Raleigh

The stands are packed at Yankee Stadium. The crowd is a mix of young and old, poor and rich, lay and religious. All the faces share the same expression — that of children anticipating a favorite loved one coming to visit. Their faces seem to be saying, "Is he here yet? Is he here yet? When will he be here?"

Chanting is breaking out as the crowd becomes impatient waiting to see him.

"BENEDICT-O, BENEDICT-O, BENEDICT-O!!" Another section breaks out in song "...Alleluia, Alleluia..." The tension is mounting to the breaking point. Finally, behind third base, the front of the white popemobile begins to come into view and the crowd explodes with a deafening roar of shouts and waving of yellow and white cloths. Cameras are flashing from every direction, reporters are crowding the aisles trying to get the best shot. When it seems the noise level cannot get any higher, it soars to nearly unbearable as the pope descends from his popemobile. Then the crowd groans as he disappears to prepare for the Mass ...

The Mass is beautiful in its universal sameness and at the same time more so because of the love for the one who is offering it to the one who is deserving of all love and obedience. At the end of the Mass, the crowd is voicing their love in a farewell chorus of chants and roaring. The love in this stadium is absolutely unmistakable.

— Zabrina Crickon, Newton Grove

It was such a personal thing for me. Not meaning I don't want to share; it's just hard to put into words. Upon arriving at Nationals Park, the first thing my husband and I saw was the tent of reconciliation. It brought tears to my eyes. It made me think of all those priests hearing confessions in Rome when Pope John Paul II passed away. It was such a beautiful sight to see how many priests were available and that there was a line. I was so moved by the number of religious, both men and women, and that so many people sacrifice their lives everyday to bring Truth to the world. I just was in awe with the Holy Father and his love that was pouring out upon us in such a way, that it was so obvious that the presence of the Holy Spirit was in this place.

— Karen Foote, Raleigh

What a blessing. We were sitting on the third base side, third row from the top at Yankee Stadium (my friend who came with me, Mary Jo Bukowski, St. Andrews in Apex, said we were in heaven). It was cold and windy — where was the sun that shone the last few days? About 10 minutes before our pope entered the stadium, the sun did begin to shine (though not on our side of the stand). But strangely, as the anticipation mounted, and as our pope entered the stadium, truly the sun did shine... I was warmed and filled to overflowing, feeling the Holy Spirit, loving God.

— Jane Pfister, Cary







## Diocesan pilgrims fill the National Shrine

**“T**his is so much more than anyone could have imagined.” That’s just one of the numerous comments made at the Diocese of Raleigh’s pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington, D.C., April 12. More than 1,500 men, women and children traveled, more than 250 miles in most cases, to be part of this special day in the life of the Church of eastern North Carolina. The large gathering, which filled the Upper Church of the Basilica, caused even the shrine staff, which hosts similar events, to marvel at the turnout.

The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge said that since he arrived in the Diocese in August 2006, he has been deeply moved by the faith and enthusiasm of the people. He added that the response of the faithful who journeyed to pay tribute to the patroness of the Church and the Diocese of Raleigh is one more sign that the Church in the Diocese is vibrant and alive. In both his official greeting and in his homily, the Bishop thanked the pilgrims for the great effort and sacrifice they undertook for this special occasion. Approximately 380 people departed April 11, most on buses from locations throughout the Diocese, spending that night in a hotel outside Washington. The remainder bused or drove up on Saturday morning.

In his welcome, Bishop Burbidge pointed out that the Basilica belongs to all the Bishops of the United States and therefore all the people. “We are in your Church today. We are in Mary’s home.”

He asked the faithful to take time during the day for reflection, adding, “The Lord will speak to you.” He also asked for prayers for three diocesan intentions:

- That the Holy Father journey safely on his upcoming trip to the United States, and that the people who hear his message will come to know that Christ is our hope.
- That we continue our prayer for the respect of life, especially as we gather in the nation’s capital.
- That our Church in Raleigh be blessed with more priests and religious.

Father JaVan Saxon, pastor of Saint Mary Church in Laurinburg, offered a reflection on “Our Blessed Mother” in English in the Upper Church and Father Fernando Torres, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Clinton, offered a reflection on Our Lady in Spanish in the Lower, Crypt Church. Both reflections were followed by the rosary. The day also included exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. It concluded with Liturgy of the Holy Eucharist.

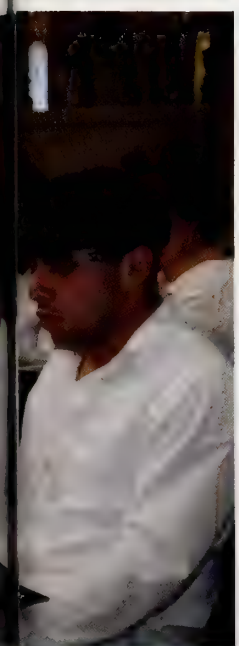
“We have journeyed to this Basilica Shrine as pilgrims,” the Bishop began in his homily “as one Diocesan Church with a rich diversity. As pilgrims who travel in the company of one another, we renew today our trust in the Lord’s abiding presence, for He is the one who leads us today and always, the one who guides us on the right path.”

**The response of the faithful who journeyed to pay tribute to the patroness of the Church and the Diocese of Raleigh is one more sign that the Church in the Diocese is vibrant and alive.**

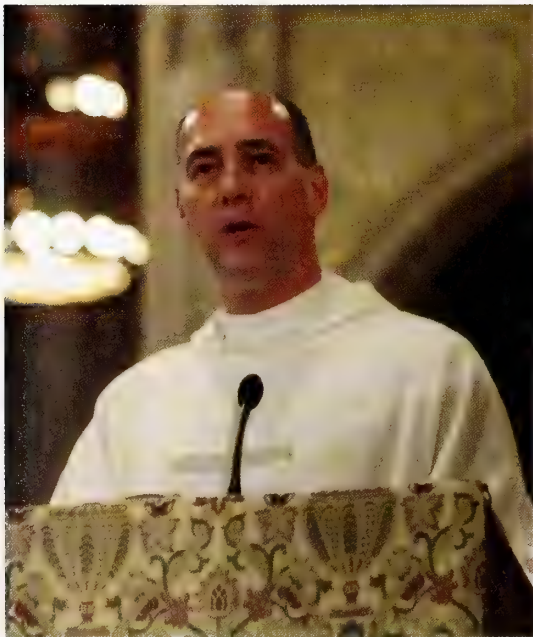
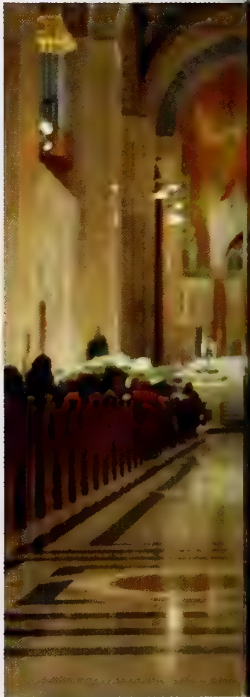
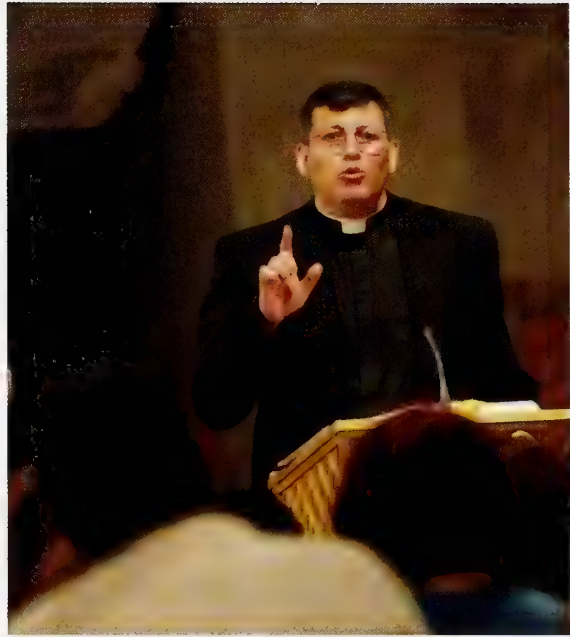
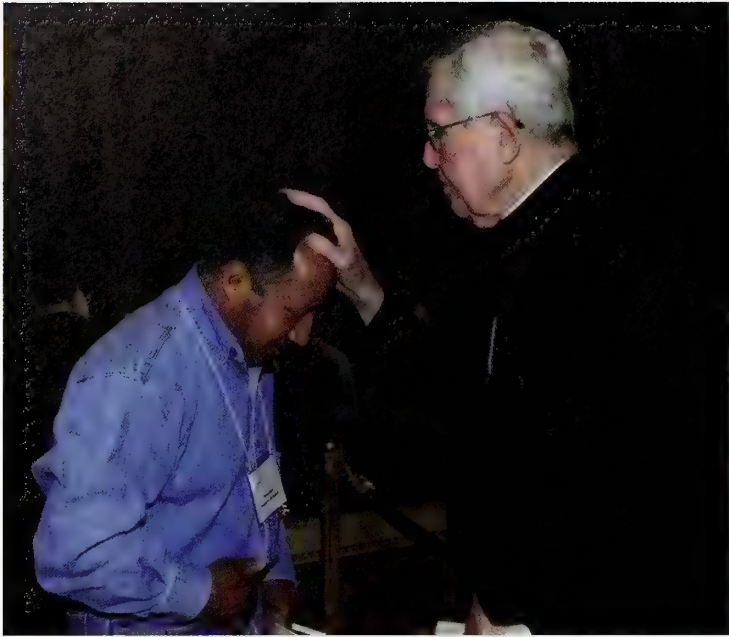
Sue Cheney, a confirmation coordinator at Holy Redeemer by the Sea Church in Kitty Hawk, made the pilgrimage with six students from her parish, five of whom will receive confirmation this year. She called it an excellent opportunity to provide the young people with a deeper understanding of the Diocesan Church and their faith. Cheney said the students used the travel time to review the questions and answers that they will need to know prior to receiving the sacrament.

Nicetas Juanillo, a native of the Philippines, and parishioner of Saint Mildred in Swansboro, said the pilgrimage was a moving experience and added that she was brought to tears by the music of the Diocesan Choir during the Benediction.

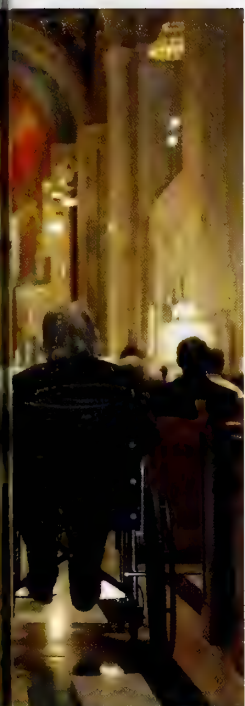
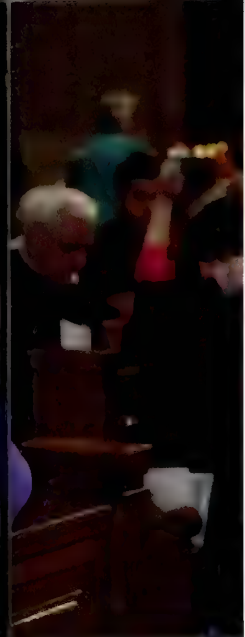
Lewin Warren of Saint Michael the Archangel Church in Cary said he and his wife recently made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. He was looking to deepen his relationship with God and said the pilgrimage offered him that opportunity.













► **Continued from page 4**

take a private five-week silent retreat at Short Journey Center in Smithfield. I would help with the upkeep of the grounds and the building during the day, while reading about various vocations and praying to God in the mornings and evenings. I had dated in college, including experiences that were truly based in Christ. I certainly considered the sacrament of holy matrimony as a real and viable possibility from such great, Christ-centered dating relationships. And I even dated a little during some of the time I was discerning a religious vocation, up until about a year before I entered. However, I wanted to see what God wanted of me rather than what I wanted of myself. That was the beginning of what became a four-year journey of discernment until I eventually entered formation with the Third Order Regular (TOR) Franciscans.

There have been so many people God has used to help me discover my vocation. Certainly there are my family members. But in narrowing it down greatly to the fewest non-family members who were instrumental in my discernment, it would be Father Bernard (Ned) Shlesinger and David Myers. I met both when I was at UNCW. That was

at the time when I started coming back into the practice and beliefs of our Catholic faith after a couple years of having separated myself from them – as regrettably happens sometimes to college students. Father Ned was a newly ordained priest assigned as a parochial vicar at St. Mary Parish in Wilmington. David was one year behind me in studies. Father Ned began serving as a mentor for me when I would bombard him with all the questions I had from some undergraduate courses that promoted or allowed the falsehoods that there is no absolute right or wrong; and that if there were an absolute truth, it would be unknowable. He eventually became a spiritual director for me as I came more and more into the faith, and later in my discernment period. David served as my closest friend. Even though initially he was from a different Christian faith tradition, we grew in our faith together in truly awesome ways. I think a lesson from this is that, while a spiritual director is necessary in discerning a vocation, a good supportive friend is as well. That type of unique Christ-centered fellowship can bring a mutual guiding toward God's call.

**Why did you choose the TOR Franciscans?** From 1998 to 2000, I had been on many "come and see" visits with different religious communities, from Rome to Tijuana

and many locations in the United States. This included a few of the excellent discernment retreats the Diocese of Raleigh had at the beach every year. I also was in the Diocese of Raleigh discernment groups at the time. While there were many aspects of the diocesan priesthood vocation that I found wonderful, I increasingly felt God calling me to serve him as a brother and a priest in religious / consecrated / community life. When I was in eucharistic adoration with a religious community in Tijuana, Mexico, I heard God explicitly say to me: "Go look Franciscan." This was the unmistakable voice of God. (That does not happen often to me. But when it does, I advise, you must act quickly and courageously!) So, then I began looking at all the major Franciscan groups I could think of and even research some I had not known. I had been on three "come and see" visits and talked with two other Franciscan groups before

I visited the TORs. When I arrived back home, I realized that I had felt like I was at home. This had to do specifically with the charisms of the order (continuous conversion / penance, prayer, minority, fraternity) and that there were a lot of young men with whom I identified and felt that God was calling me to live and serve with to strive toward holiness. I

went on one other "come and see" with another Franciscan group after that just to be prudent. A month later, I prayerfully made the decision to apply to the TOR Franciscans and then just continued until God told me otherwise.

**Since you started on the road to the priesthood, what have been the biggest challenges? What have been the satisfactions?** When I thought I realized where

God might be calling me and began the application process, I continued to stay where I was until God taught me otherwise. There are two challenges to this. Eventually, I had to make a definitive decision. Once the time came for me to make my life-long commitment (solemn vows) as a Franciscan, I had to say this is where I'm staying and what I'm doing no matter what – come hell

or high water! This is the second challenge: There will be tough times and challenges. That doesn't mean the path you're on is not God's Will. For me, I found it as a motivation to enter deeper into prayer and unite myself closer to the cross of Jesus Christ until the storm passed. Then I could make a clearer decision in the son-light whether I should stay or go. Every time, I discovered that God wanted me to serve Him in this very acute and profound way. Some of those difficulties have specifically been the continued God-instilled natural drive and attraction to be a husband and father. For me, transitory aspects of formation had their challenges. But such challenges showed me that (1) there is no life that is just the way I want it; and (2) it is in not having things the way I think they should be done that helped me become more malleable in the hand of God to better serve him in people who are very different from myself.

The biggest satisfaction has been a continual walk with God where prayer does not end in the chapel in the morning or the evening. Rather, the life I'm living allows for a continual conversation / prayer with God throughout the day bringing the Mass and the Divine Office in to often multi-faceted parts of my days and nights. This is a prayer life that has enabled me to gaze on the face and cross of Christ and the triune God-head in contemplation; and to see the ways God works and exists in the people all around me whom I serve.

**Where will your ordination take place?**

**Who's presiding?** My ordination to the priesthood will take place in Loretto, Pa. – the town of our motherhouse and St. Francis University (one of our province's two universities). Loretto is in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. And I will be ordained with one other friar (my classmate) by Bishop Joseph V. Adamec of that Diocese. Afterwards, I will be coming to celebrate Masses of Thanksgiving in different parishes in the Diocese of Raleigh June 1-15.

**And after that?** I hope to find out my first assignment as a priest in April. Regardless of





where I am assigned, I still have a master's of science in education administration to finish at Franciscan University of Steubenville (in Ohio) – one of our province's two universities.

**What would you say to a young person who is trying to discern God's will for them?** First, God is calling many people all the time to serve him in all vocations: married life, single life, holy orders as a diocesan priest or permanent deacon, or in the religious life as a brother or sister. (Some men are called to both religious life and priesthood, like me.) Many young people think that excludes them. That could be a big mistake. How do you know?

This is where the second thing comes in: Don't feel like you have to know a lot about God or be really religious to start discerning a vocation. All you have to do is believe that there is a God and that whatever you want to do you want to do with His help. That is how I started. I didn't know a lot of theology. I just knew that if I was going to do anything with the rest of my life (that's a long time), I wanted to do it with God beside my life.

Third, don't expect a lightning bolt or quick fix like our consumer culture fosters. Just because we can get a quick and accurate piece of information off of Wikipedia does not mean we can find God's Will the same way. God's Will for you for the rest of your life is going to be profound precisely because it involves the rest of your life. So, don't "choose" a vocation like an impulse purchase. Rather sit with it in prayer at different times during your day or week over long periods of time. This is how God speaks to us more often than not, in such profound ways that anyone can hear: Like you're slowly unwrapping a Christmas package and starting to see the gift God wants to give you. So don't be afraid to take your time and don't feel it's odd to go before God in prayer or Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and talk to him as you would a friend and your God, who loves you and is calling you to something. Finally, as you take that journey, do not be afraid of what anyone says. There will be friends, and people who don't understand spiritual things, and even sometimes family members who may oppose your seeking. But don't let that stop your sincere quest. Just as Jesus commands: "Be not afraid!"

Finally, the "to do" list for discerning is very easy: Talk to a priest, religious brother, sister, or a good Catholic lay person who could be a mentor that you trust. (Eventually you will want to find a spiritual director, or talk to Fr. Ned Shlesinger or Brad Watkins in the Diocese of Raleigh Office of Vocations or another vocations director of a community in which you might be interested.) Also, pray, write in a journal to see how God moves in your life or stirs up thoughts about who he made you to be and how you can best serve him. And, finally, make a holy discipline of participating in the sacraments – especially Sunday and daily Mass and reconciliation. It's that easy. Then God will do the rest. Just listen. He will tell you. ☩

## ► Continued from page 5

enjoys and the generosity of Americans. Yet, he also spoke of some of the challenges we face. He addressed specifically the need for all of us to work in the strengthening of married love and family life. He recognizes that for various reasons, some in our midst have been misguided in understanding the truth: that from the very beginning the Lord created us male and female and designed the union of one man and one woman as a sacred bond. That definition of marriage must be protected. He also understands that many in our midst no longer believe vows

and promises are meant to be kept and cannot be abandoned at the first sign of disappointment or setback. So many have forgotten that married love is a gift given for the purpose of increasing the family of God and building up the body of Christ. Thus, our Holy Father instructed bishops to make the focus of married love and family life among their highest priorities."

"Your love is sacramental," the Bishop said to the couples gathered at the Masses, "because it is a sign of the love that Jesus has for us and for his Church, a love that is permanent, faithful and fruitful. You are that sign for us and we are truly grateful to you!"

*Nearly 300 couples attended the two Masses, joined by more than 600 family members.*

**Marguerite and Frederick Kull**, of Immaculate Conception Parish in Durham, have been married 65 years. The parents of five children, including twins, they attended the 2007 anniversary Mass as well. Asked if they knew any secrets for making marriage last, they said no. "Just to tell each other every day that you love each other," Marguerite said with a smile.

**Mike and Cheryl Kirk-Duggan**, married 25 years, attend Holy Cross Church in Durham. Cheryl is an ordained Methodist minister who teaches theology at Shaw University. Mike was a reader at the anniversary Mass in Raleigh.

**Cris and Terry Mercaldo**, also of Durham (Immaculate Conception), came to the Mass in Raleigh "to celebrate, and to reaffirm our vows after 50 years together." Terry says, "Cris is just a fun person. That really helps the relationship."

**William and Tammy Sanford**, married 25 years, attend Sts. Mary and Edward Church in Roxboro. They saw the Mass as "something special" to mark their 25th anniversary. They seemed almost surprised that so many years had passed. Their secret? "Determination," Tammy joked, "and it helps that I'm a very easy person to live with." William wisely agreed.

**Mike and Susan Young**, of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Raleigh, cited "respect for one another, mutual concern" and "a sense of humor" as smoothing the way for 25 years of marriage. Asked what had brought them to the special Mass, Susan said, "Well, I told Mike I wanted to go for the Bishop." And Mike said, "I told Susan, I want to go for you. Bishops come and go, but you're the only wife I have."

A sense of humor was also apparent as a reporter spoke with **Keith and Holly Stringer** of St. Mary, Mother of the Church Parish in Garner, married 25 years. Holly's marriage advice: "Patience, communication. And 'Yes, Dear,' helps." Keith responded, "Once you find your best friend, everything else is easy."



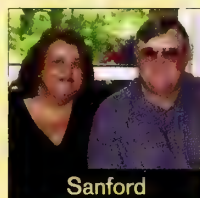
Kull



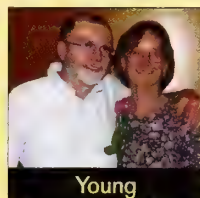
Kirk-Duggan



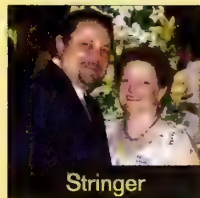
Mercaldo



Sanford



Young



Stringer



# Querido lector de NCC

Por: Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

## Querido lector: ¿Tienen Alma los Embriones?

**L**a gente se sorprende a veces cuando se enteran de que lo incorrecto de destruir un embrión humano *no* depende en última instancia del momento en que ese embrión pueda convertirse en persona o recibir de Dios el alma. Muchas personas suponen, frecuentemente, que la Iglesia Católica enseña que destruir los embriones humanos es inaceptable porque son personas (o tienen alma). Aunque es cierto que la Iglesia nos enseña que la destrucción intencional y directa de embriones humanos es siempre inmoral, sería incorrecto deducir por ello que también enseña que los cigotos (embriones de una sola célula, es decir, el óvulo fertilizado), o cualesquiera otros embriones en fases tempranas, son personas, o que ya tienen almas racionales inmortales. El magisterio de la Iglesia nunca ha declarado de manera definitiva cuándo se crea el alma en el embrión humano. Esto sigue siendo una cuestión abierta. La Declaración sobre el Aborto Provocado emitido por la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe en 1974 lo expone de manera muy precisa:

►► “Esta declaración deja expresamente a un lado la cuestión del momento de la infusión del alma espiritual. No hay sobre este punto una tradición unánime, y los autores están todavía divididos. Para unos, esto sucedería en el primer instante; para otros, podría ser anterior a la anidación. No corresponde a la ciencia dilucidarlas, pues la existencia de un alma inmortal no entra dentro de su campo. Se trata de una discusión filosófica de la que nuestra razón moral es independiente...”

A partir de lo anterior, la enseñanza moral de la Iglesia es que el embrión humano debe ser tratado *como si* ya tuviera alma, aun y cuando pudiera no ser así. Debe ser tratado *como si* ya fuera una persona desde el momento de la concepción, aun y cuando exista la posibilidad teórica de que no sea así. ¿Por qué esta postura sutil, débil, y no una declaración firme de que los cigotos tienen alma y por lo tanto son personas? Primero, porque nunca ha habido unanimidad en la tradición

sobre este tema; segundo, porque el preciso momento de la creación del alma/la persona en el embrión humano es irrelevante para la pregunta de si podemos o no destruir dichos embriones con propósitos de investigación o cualesquiera otros propósitos.

Es interesante saber que el tema de la creación del alma se ha estado analizando desde hace siglos y que la *animación tardía* fue probablemente la norma en la mayor parte de la historia cris-

tiana. La *animación inmediata* empezó a ganar fuerza a comienzos del siglo XVII (y en la actualidad es la postura más ampliamente aceptada). San Agustín, al parecer, estuvo cambiando de una posición a la otra durante toda su vida. Santo Tomás, en el siglo XIII, sostenía que la animación humana no sucedía en el primer instante sino en un momento independiente del inicio mismo. El argumentaba que esto posibilitaba el desarrollo material del embrión y lo hacía “apto” para recibir de Dios el alma inmortal (pasando por estadios iniciales más simples como almas “vegetales” y “animales”). Las discusiones

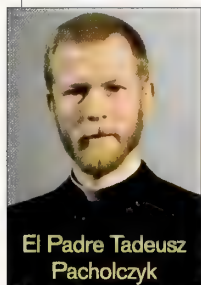
continúan todavía el día de hoy en diversos ámbitos, con nuevos conocimientos en embriología incorporándose al debate como lo son la gemelización y la quimerización, y con nuevas preguntas conceptuales surgidas a partir de la complicada biología que rodea la totipotencialidad y la pluripotencialidad.

Hay que reconocer que el momento preciso en que el alma es creada en el embrión es asunto de Dios. No necesitamos una respuesta a esta fascinante pregunta teológica especulativa, como aquella antigua discusión sobre cuántos ángeles caben en la punta de una

**Lo que el embrión humano es, aún en su más temprana fase de desarrollo, lo convierte ya en el único ser apto para recibir el don de un alma inmortal de manos de Dios.**

aguja, para comprender la verdad fundamental de que los embriones humanos son inviolables y merecen un respeto incondicional en cada etapa de su existencia. Esta declaración moral se apega, más bien, a los datos científicos que se tienen sobre el desarrollo humano inicial y que afirman que cada una de las personas sobre la faz de la tierra es, por decirlo así, “un embrión que ha crecido mucho”. No es necesario, por lo tanto, saber *cómo* Dios crea el alma en el embrión, pues como en alguna ocasión lo he comentado a manera de broma, aun y cuando fuera cierto que el embrión no recibe su alma sino hasta que se gradúa de la escuela de leyes, eso no significa que antes de su graduación se le pueden extirpar forzosamente órganos y tejidos y provocarle la muerte.

Los embriones humanos son ya seres que son humanos (no cebras ni plantas) y, de hecho, son los más nuevos y más recientes integrantes de la familia humana. Son seres completos estructurados para madurar a lo largo de su propia línea de tiempo. Cualquier acción destructiva contra ellos durante su desplazamiento hacia el desarrollo total, interrumpe en sí toda la línea de tiempo de esa persona en



El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

— El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk hizo su doctorado en neurociencias en la Universidad de Yale y su trabajo post-doctoral en la Universidad de Harvard. Es Sacerdote para la Diócesis de Fall River, MA, y se desempeña como Director de Educación en el Centro Nacional Católico de Bioética en Philadelphia. The National Catholic Bioethics Center: [www.ncccenter.org](http://www.ncccenter.org)



particular. En otras palabras, el embrión existe como un integrante completo y viviente de la especie humana, y cuando se destruye, ese individuo específico ha perecido. Todo embrión humano, por lo tanto, es único y sagrado, y no debe ser canibalizado para extraerle sus células madre.

Lo que el embrión humano es, aún en su más temprana fase de desarrollo, lo convierte ya en el único ser apto para recibir el don de un alma inmortal de manos de Dios. Ningún otro embrión animal o vegetal puede recibir este don; de hecho, ningún otro ente en el universo puede recibirlo. Es por ello que el embrión humano desde sus inicios nunca será meramente un tejido biológico, como lo es un grupo de células hepáticas en una caja de petri; minimamente, ese embrión, con todas sus estructuras internas y con la dirección que sigue, representa el santuario privilegiado de alguien que ha sido creado para desarrollarse como una persona humana.

Algunos científicos y filósofos intentarán argumentar que si el embrión en fase inicial no ha recibido aún un alma inmortal de Dios, entonces está bien destruirlo con propósitos de investigación puesto que todavía no es una persona. Pero en realidad sería lo contrario; es decir, sería *más inmoral* destruir un embrión que todavía no ha recibido un alma inmortal que destruir uno que ya la tiene. ¿Por qué? Porque el alma inmortal es el principio por el cual esa persona puede llegar a su destino eterno con Dios en el cielo, de tal manera que cuando alguien destruye un embrión, si ese fuera el escenario, impediría de manera absoluta que ese ser humano logre tener un alma inmortal (o ser una persona) y pueda llegar a Dios. Esta sería la peor de las maldades pues ese investigador de células madre embrionarias estropearía, con una acción que en cierto sentido sería peor que el asesinato, todo el diseño que Dios tenía para esa persona única e irrepetible.

La persona humana, por lo tanto, aun en su forma más incipiente como un ser humano embrionario, debe ser siempre protegida de manera absoluta e incondicional, y la especulación respecto al momento en que se convierte en persona no debe alterar esta verdad fundamental. 17

## Tiempo de regocijo y bendición

**L**as últimas semanas han sido emocionantes en la vida de nuestra Diócesis y de la Iglesia. ¡Somos privilegiados de ser católicos! ¡Estoy muy orgulloso de nuestra Diócesis!

La peregrinación Diocesana hacia la Basílica de la Inmaculada Concepción fue un evento lleno de abundantes bendiciones espirituales. Me conmovió la cantidad de sacerdotes, religiosos y fieles quienes realizaron un gran sacrificio para asistir a la peregrinación. Además fue satisfactorio ver a tanta gente celebrar el sacramento de penitencia, adorar al Señor en silencio frente al Santísimo Sacramento, rezar el rosario y escuchar las presentaciones acerca de la Santa Madre. Al comienzo de la Misa, recuerdo especialmente, la gran diversidad de nuestra Diócesis y la unidad que disfrutamos en Cristo. En la Misa y durante el día, oramos por todos los miembros de la Diócesis que no pudieron asistir, sobre todo por aquellos que sufren enfermedades y los que se quedaron en casa. Sin duda, todos los que participamos fuimos renovados en nuestro amor por el Señor y su Santa Madre.

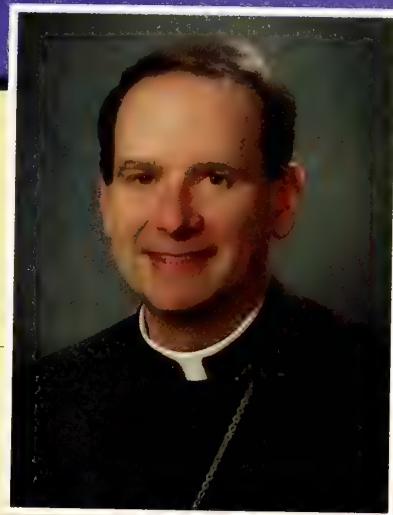
También celebramos de forma sin igual nuestra fe católica debido al histórico viaje papal de Nuestro Santo Padre Benedicto XVI, quien nos recordó que Cristo es nuestra esperanza y que fuimos enviados para ser Su testigo. En ésta magnífica homilía y reflexión, la cual les recomiendo leer y meditar, nuestro Santo Padre enfatizó que solo en Cristo descubrimos la Verdad que nos libera y nos llena de gozo. (La homilía está disponible en la página Web del Vaticano [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va))

De igual forma, fue un verdadero privilegio asistir con el Obispo Gossman y nuestros hermanos obispos a la reunión con nuestro Santo Padre el cual nos animó en nuestros ministerios. Él agradeció especialmente a los sacerdotes y religiosos ya todo aquel que entregó su vida por servir a la iglesia. Nuestro Santo Padre, se refirió a la gravedad de los escándalos que han impactado la vida de la iglesia y recalcó su profundo dolor y tristeza por el horrendo abuso de menores.

El Santo Padre nos retó a permanecer como

instrumentos de sanación y reconciliación para brindar nuestra compasión a todas las víctimas y ratifiqué mi compromiso a ese llamado. También instó a todo el pueblo de Dios a apoyar a nuestros sacerdotes quienes continúan sirviendo al Señor con fe, generosidad y devoción. Además, el Santo Padre recordó a todos los Obispos que debemos fortalecer al matrimonio y a la vida en familia como parte de nuestra prioridad en la Diócesis. Recientemente, celebramos el amor matrimonial en nuestra Diócesis en la Misa Anual para parejas que celebran 25, 50 o más años de casados. Un aproximado de 300 parejas y sus familias asistieron a las dos Misas ofrecidas. De parte de nuestra Diócesis, les agradezco el ejemplo y el testimonio de sus vidas como una señal visible del amor de nuestro Señor por su Esposa, la Iglesia. Estoy muy agradecido con todos los matrimonios en nuestra Diócesis por su vocación y fe. Que su amor continúe fortalecido al pasar de los días.

Sin duda, ¡hemos recibido una gran bendición en la vida de nuestra Iglesia! Sintámonos renovados en la fe católica y en el amor por nuestro Señor y su Iglesia. Continuemos honrando a nuestra Santa Madre y su constante protección. Seamos fieles a nuestro Santo Padre y la verdad de las enseñanzas de la Iglesia. Fortalezcamos en nuestra vocación la promesa que le hicimos a Dios y a cada uno de nosotros, a través de la intercesión de María y José, ¡que nuestro Señor Jesús los bendiga a todos ustedes y a sus familias para que siempre fortalezca su fe, esperanza y amor!





# El amor matrimonial:

Un signo del amor de Jesús por nosotros

**D**urante el 27 de abril y el 6 de mayo, la Diócesis de Raleigh rindió tributo a la vida matrimonial y al amor con dos misas especiales ofrecidas por el Obispo Michael F Burbidge en Raleigh y en New Bern para parejas que celebraban 25, 50 o mas años de matrimonio. Este año fue el segundo aniversario de bodas en la Diócesis, patrocinada por la Conferencia de Obispos de Estados Unidos.

En Noviembre del año 2004, los Obispos de los Estados Unidos votaron a favor de dar prioridad al matrimonio. Ellos iniciaron la campaña de iniciativa matrimonial (NPIM por sus siglas en inglés) al cual es un esfuerzo para comunicar el significado y el valor de la vida matrimonial para la iglesia y para la sociedad. La iniciativa

comprende enseñanzas de la iglesia católica y la práctica pastoral, estudios científicos y la experiencia de parejas casadas. Esta iniciativa ofrece una guía a seguir una carta pastoral, para promover y fortalecer el matrimonio, y la Conferencia de Obispos continuará con su arduo trabajo en esta área hasta el año 2011.



La intención de los obispos es la de fortalecer el matrimonio como una institución humana y un sacramento cristiano, específicamente en las siguientes áreas:

- Ofrecer el punto de vista católico al significado, valor y lo sagrado del matrimonio.
- Conectar la creencia y la enseñanza católica con asuntos matrimoniales de actualidad.
- Fortalecer el matrimonio a través de experiencias de la fe cristiana.

- Trabajar con los ciudadanos para promover leyes, políticas y otras estrategias sociales.
- Promover mas y mejores ministerios dedicados a matrimonio, en especial, en las parroquias
- Ayudar a las parejas apreciar el valor del matrimonio
- Fomentar a las diócesis, organizaciones y movimientos eclesiales a nivel nacional para promover intereses a favor del matrimonio.

Los obispos sienten la necesidad de actuar en este



momento porque el matrimonio como institución ha sufrido gravemente en los últimos años, debido a los recurrentes y altos niveles de divorcios, el rápido aumento de concubinatos, y la disminución del índice de matrimonios. Este es un tiempo decisivo para unimos con otros que buscan fortalecer su matrimonio. Los obispos están convencidos de que la Iglesia Católica puede llamar la atención del público con respecto al valor del matrimonio.

Entre las actividades de la iniciativa se encuentran:

- Grupos con matrimonios (incluyendo parejas de diferentes religiones) separados o divorciados, jóvenes adultos solteros y parejas en su segundo matrimonio.
- Grupos con sacerdotes
- Charlas con científicos del área social y teólogos
- Consultas para la preparación matrimonial y el enriquecimiento del matrimonio
- Proyecto de evaluación nacional a católicos con respecto al matrimonio

Además, los obispos elaboraron una carta pastoral acerca del matrimonio (reseñas de la mayoría de estas actividades se encuentran en el sitio Web [www.usccb.org/npim](http://www.usccb.org/npim))

El trabajo continuará en las oficinas diocesanas y en los grupos a nivel nacional, incluyendo en los seminarios y universidades, para promover y mejorar los ministerios pastorales que fortalezcan el matrimonio y la vida en familia.

En la Misa de aniversario de la Diócesis de Raleigh, el Obispo Burbidge habló de la preocupación del Santo Padre por el bienestar del matrimonio en los Estados Unidos. —En su reciente visita pastoral a los Estados Unidos,

nuestro Santo Padre habló de las bendiciones que nuestro país disfruta y la generosidad de los estadounidenses, sin embargo, habló de los desafíos que enfrenta. Se refirió específicamente al esfuerzo que debemos realizar para fortalecer el amor matrimonial y la vida familiar. También reconoció las razones, puesto que algunos de nosotros hemos sido engañados en el entendimiento de la verdad: que desde el comienzo el Señor nos creó como hombre

y mujer y designó la unión de un hombre y una mujer como un lazo sagrado, y ésta la definición del matrimonio debe protegerse. Además, comprendió que muchos de nosotros no creen que los votos y las promesas deban mantenerse y no abandonarlas a la primera señal de decepción o contratiempos. Muchos han olvidado que el amor matrimonial es un regalo otorgado a nosotros con el propósito de incrementar la familia de Dios y construir el cuerpo

de Cristo. De esta manera, nuestro Santo Padre instruyó a los obispos de enfocar el amor matrimonial y la vida en familia entre sus prioridades más importantes.

— Su amor es sacramental — dijo el Obispo a las parejas que asistieron a las Misas, — porque es un símbolo del amor de Jesús por nosotros y por la Iglesia, un amor que es permanente, fiel y fructífero. ¡Ustedes son la señal para nosotros y estamos profundamente agradecidos!

**Alrededor de 300 parejas asistieron a las dos Misas conjunto con más de 600 miembros de sus familias.**

**Marguerite y Frederick Kull:** de la parroquia de la Immaculate Conception de Durham, han estado casados por 65 años, tuvieron cinco hijos, incluyendo gemelos, y asistieron a la misa de aniversario en el 2007. Le preguntamos que si existe algún secreto para hacer que un matrimonio perdure y dijeron que no. —Solo decir todo los días “te amo” — comentó Marguerite con una sonrisa.

**Mike y Cheryl Kirk Duggan:** Asisten a la Iglesia de Holy Cross en Durham, Cheryl es ministra ordenada de la iglesia Metodista quien enseña teología en Shaw University. Mike fue lector en la Misa de aniversario en Raleigh.

**Cris y Terry Mercaldo:** De Durham, asistieron a la Misa en Raleigh — para celebrar y renovar sus votos después de 50 años de matrimonio. — Cris es una persona divertida y eso ayuda mucho en la relación. — comentó Terry.

**William y Tammy Sanford,** asisten a la Iglesia de Sts Mary y Edward en Roxboro. Ellos perciben la Misa como algo especial para conmemorar sus 25 años de matrimonio. Ellos parecen sorprendidos de lo rápido que han pasado los años. ¿Cual es su secreto? La determinación — bromeo Tammy — y también convivir conmigo es fácil: a lo cual William estuvo muy de acuerdo.

**Mike y Susan Young,** de la parroquia de St Luke the Evangelist en Raleigh, comentaron —el respeto, el cuidado y el sentido del humor hacen de 25 años de matrimonio un recorrido placentero. Le preguntamos por qué decidieron asistir a la Misa y Susan respondió — Bueno, le dije a Mike que quería asistir por el Obispo, — a lo que Mike respondió —Le dije a Susan que yo quería ir por ella porque los Obispos vienen y van, pero ella es la única esposa que tengo.

El sentido del humor es aparente entre **Keith y Holly Stringer** quienes asisten a la Iglesia de St. Mary, Mother of the Church en Garner. El consejo de Holly para un buen matrimonio es: — Paciencia, comunicación y sobre todo, decir “¡Si, cariño!” sirve de utilidad. Keith respondió al comentario — Una vez que consigues a tu mejor amiga, todo lo demás es fácil.



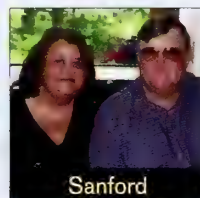
Kull



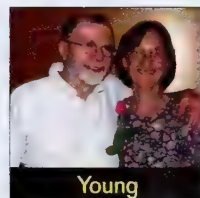
Kirk-Duggan



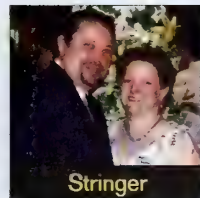
Mercaldo



Sanford



Young



Stringer





Jo-Ann Colopy

### St. Raphael teacher wins Lewis Award

►► Jo-Ann Colopy, a second-grade teacher at Saint Raphael the Archangel Catholic School in Raleigh, is the 2008 winner of the Monsignor Gerald Lawrence Lewis Award for Excellence in Teaching. Colopy found out the good news at a staged school assembly. She said the news both amazed and humbled her.

"You do your best," Colopy said in a phone interview, "but you don't stop to think that it will be considered that way by others. I have to thank God for the opportunity to be a teacher, and praise him, and all the teachers that encourage and challenge me."

The award was presented formally on April 23, following a liturgy at which Bishop Michael F. Burbidge presided. Monsignor Lewis delivered the homily.

Colopy holds the distinction of being the first faculty member hired at St. Raphael when it opened in 1993. At that time, she was a kindergarten teacher, but she has also taught pre-school, first grade and fourth grade in her 17 years as an educator.

Married with eight grown children and one grandchild, Colopy is a member of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish. She is trained as a master catechist and lists among her goals "to encourage growth in the spiritual life of each student."

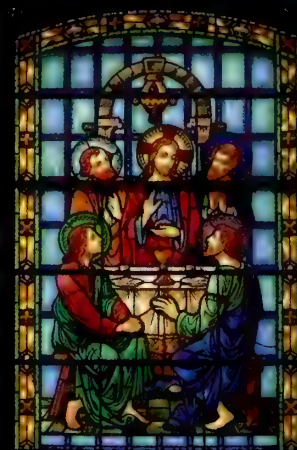
"Working in a Catholic school gives me a focus," she said. "And it is amazing that my religion can be a part of my day."

Colopy says that it is not always the high points in her career that have helped her get where she is today. "Sometimes the challenges help me to be better, to be more aware," she said. "I want to make sure that I can meet the needs of my students, and honor them because God has made them."

One of the challenges that Colopy sees as paramount for teachers now and in the near future is the wise use of material found on the Internet. She feels the need for education to focus not only on teaching the basics of computer use, but also the ethical implications of students using the Internet to do their research.

Colopy is not the first Lewis Award winner for St. Raphael; in 2004, Susan H. Hoying was granted the honor as well. Since 1992, the Lewis Award has been presented annually to one teacher in the Diocese of Raleigh to recognize, promote and encourage excellence in teaching. The award is named in honor of Monsignor Lewis, who has served the Diocese of Raleigh for more than four decades.

— Amanda Cadran



### CORRECTIONS

►► In our March issue, *NCC* failed to credit photographer Chris Elam, whose photograph of a stained glass window from the old St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill was used in our cover story, the Table of Contents and our Spanish feature. We sincerely apologize to Mr. Elam for the oversight.

►► In our April issue, a news article stated that the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Immaculata, Pa., ministered in the Diocese of Raleigh from 1977 to 1996. In fact, Sisters of that Order were teaching at Cathedral School in Raleigh in 1973.



### St. Michael teens plan mission trip

►► On June 22, 45 high school students from the LifeTeen group at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Cary will be heading to the desert. In partnership with Youthworks, a South Carolina organization that facilitates mission trips for church youth, the teen volunteers will join a group of Episcopal youth from Texas at an Apache reservation near Mesa, Ariz. They will spend a week there, repairing homes, teaching children and delivering school and household supplies they've collected for those in need. The week of good works will also be a week of prayer, including Mass at the nearby parish and ecumenical prayer with their Texas counterparts.

The group has been creatively fundraising for months to send



## Catholic Charities partners with St. Therese School to build character

►► "If everyone in the world was just kind to everyone else, then all the fighting would be over." That insight from a fifth grader at St. Therese School in Wilson "just blew me away," says Betty Byrnes, director of the Tar River Regional Office of Catholic Charities. For several years, her office of Catholic Charities has partnered with St. Therese in providing character education to its students, from 3-year-olds to grade 5.

Character education aims at teaching children how to practice virtues like kindness, responsibility and respect for others. It provides students with character-building activities matched to age-appropriate stages of moral

development. The program is implemented through Catholic Charities by interns recruited at East Carolina University in Greenville. Amelia Sprague, who will complete her master's degree in Social Work at ECU this spring, is currently visiting St. Therese twice a week, teaching the children in the classroom as well as providing individual counseling.

On a Thursday morning, Sprague is speaking with a fourth-grade class about kindness. She begins by reading a brief account of a kind act that powerfully affected a man's life. "You can see the power of kindness in this story," she says. "Now, how do we show kindness?" The lesson, adapted by Sprague from a Web site, [www.helpingothers.org](http://www.helpingothers.org), involves role-playing. Children model kind acts — picking up a book another student has dropped, for example



— and then encourage the beneficiary to "pay it forward" by handing them a card that reads, "Smile — you've just been tagged, and now you're it." Thus the students learn that one kindness should — and with their help will — lead to another.

The program came about in response to input from parents concerned about instilling Catholic identity and values in their children. "To begin with," St. Therese Principal Susan Thomas explains, "parents send their children

here because we provide a Catholic environment and high expectations of excellence, both academic and personal."

"Parents these days are aware of how much children face today in the way of societal influences and messages," Betty Byrnes adds. "There's a concern lest children be inundated with information before they develop the capacity to understand it. Character education reinforces the efforts of parents and of St. Therese School in that respect."

## Diocesan faithful thanked for generosity

►► The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge received letters of gratitude from coordinators of two of the Catholic Church's 12 national collections.

Sister Janice Bader, CPPS, executive director of the National Religious Retirement Office, thanked the Bishop for the Diocese's contribution of \$207,013.03. The collection in December helps provide for the retirement needs of a growing group of aging religious priests, brothers and sisters. At present, there are more than 37,000 religious 70 and older. That number is

expected to increase significantly in the next 10 years.

Bishop Burbidge also received a letter of appreciation from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) for the \$92,217.72 donated by the Diocesan faithful in the most recent annual collection in November. CCHD provides grants to local community-based groups that create jobs, improve education and strengthen neighborhoods. The amount submitted to the CCHD national office represents 75 percent of the Diocesan collection. The remaining 25 percent remains with the Diocese to fund anti-poverty projects on the local level. The grants are awarded each year in October.

as many members as possible on the trip; each teen pays \$625, which covers transportation, the cost of tools, building materials and other necessities for the mission.

The teens have done volunteer work closer to home. Why travel so far away? "We have a chance to go where the need is greatest," one group member answers. "The reservation has an alcoholism rate of 51 percent and the average income is \$14,000 a year." The teens talk about the importance of getting "out of our comfort zone." Experiencing a different culture, living minimally — no beds or air-conditioning — can be a challenge, a chance to remember, as one young man puts it, "that God is behind me, that I don't need those things." It's also, another teen says, "a reminder of how good we really have it, and a chance to give back."

The leaders hope the young people will be influenced by the

value the Native American culture places on the family. In addition, the youth will learn new skills, and on their return "spread the fire" of missionary zeal to their peers by word of mouth. For 2009, the goal is a trip to St. Michael's sister parish in Honduras.

Two members of the group, sisters, recalled their experience as volunteers in Mississippi one year after Hurricane Katrina. "We gained so much more than we gave," they said. The teens and leaders heading to Arizona are confident that this trip will be blessed with the same result.

►► **Tax deductible donations to help sponsor the youth are welcome.** Checks to St. Michael the Archangel Church, 804 High House Road, Cary, NC 27513, can be sent to the attention of LifeTeen Director Jean Morrison.





## Fashion meets faith in Cary

►► At Raleigh's second annual Pure Fashion Show on April 20 at Embassy Suites of Cary, mothers, daughters, fathers and friends were treated to an afternoon of fashion and faith.

The day's festivities kicked off with a silent auction. At approximately 4:30 p.m., guests began filing into the ballroom for the main event – the fashion show. Co-chairwomen Shelley Morrisette and Nancy Beichner began the show with a blessing, followed by an introduction: Pure Fashion not only showcases beautiful fashions, but it teaches girls about the “true beauty of style and virtue.”

Pure Fashion is a program designed to guide young women ages 14-18 to live lives of modesty and faith. It was founded on the notion that young women of today are sent conflicting messages about what to wear and how to act, and thus may be led down paths not pleasing to God. As Morrisette told the crowd in her opening comments, “A real model is a role model.”

This year's participants hail from 17 different schools and 23 different churches. Outside of Raleigh, nearly 30 cities are holding Pure Fashion shows this year, and countries as far away as Italy, Spain and Argentina are participating as well.

For nearly one year, each of the 60 participants is part of a program designed to highlight the “spiritual and physical aspects of beauty and fashion.” Speakers covered topics from hair and makeup to public speaking and the fashioning virtue seminar, which “helped the girls to see that their testimony of life will attract others.”

After their opening message, Morrisette and Beichner handed the reins to the afternoon's host, NBC-17 news anchor Melanie Sanders, who made it clear that Pure Fashion's mission is close to her heart as well. “[Pure Fashion]

gives girls the opportunity to know that being modest and pure is something to be proud of,” Sanders said.

The lineup also included a performance by award-winning Christian contemporary artist Nate Sallie, whose own daughter is 9 years old. Sallie appreciates the value of the Pure Fashion program. “I try to teach my daughter to celebrate the beauty that is only in God,” Sallie said before his performance.

Lisa Rice, author of the book *For Young Women Only: What You Need to Know About How Guys Think*, shared her perspective on young women and fashion. Rice highlighted the value of learning to dress modestly in relation to how men view women. She said that because men are more visual by nature, the clothing women wear is like a label, and “it tells not just about the outside, but the inside as well.”

Participant Alex Macey, a senior at St. Thomas More Academy in Raleigh, sees the program as a springboard for future change. “If we can continue to spread the message of modesty, we can make an impact in the world,” Macey said.

Lisa Salamido, whose daughter Gianna participated in the program, worked for Pure Fashion as a promotions volunteer this year. She feels that Pure Fashion offers young women an alternative to mainstream clothing stores. “Pure Fashion teaches girls there is another way to live,” Salamido says.

Morrisette's daughter Morgan participated in the pro-

**Pure Fashion is a program designed to guide young women ages 14-18 to live lives of modesty and faith.**



**STATEMENT OF  
NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY  
AS TO STUDENTS**

As Catholic schools of the Diocese of Raleigh, the following schools have a racially non-discriminatory policy for all students, as our schools admit students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin or sex to the rights, privileges, programs and activities to students at the schools.

These schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin or sex in administration of educational policies, admissions, and athletics and other school-administered programs.

**Office of Catholic Formation and Education**

The Catholic Center  
715 Nazareth Street  
Raleigh, NC 27606-2187  
(919) 821-9749

**Dr. Michael J. Fedewa**

Superintendent of Catholic Formation and Education

Revised 4.2.2008

**SCHOOLS**

Annunciation Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Havelock  
Blessed Sacrament Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Burlington  
Cardinal Gibbons High School (9-12), Raleigh  
Cathedral Elementary School (Pre-K-8), Raleigh  
The Franciscan School (K-8), Raleigh  
Immaculata Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Durham  
Infant of Prague Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Jacksonville  
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School (K-8), Raleigh  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School (Pre-K-5), Rocky Mount  
Pope John Paul II Catholic School (Pre-K-5), Southern Pines  
St. Ann Catholic School (K-8), Fayetteville  
St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School (Pre-K-7), Wake Forest  
St. Egbert Catholic School (K-5), Morehead City  
St. Mark Catholic School (K-8), Wilmington  
St. Mary Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Goldsboro  
St. Mary Catholic School (K-8), Wilmington  
St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Apex  
St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Cary  
St. Paul Education Center (Pre-K-8), New Bern  
St. Patrick Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Fayetteville  
St. Peter Catholic School (K-8), Greenville  
St. Raphael Catholic School (K-8), Raleigh  
St. Therese Catholic School (Pre-K-5), Wilson  
St. Thomas More Catholic School (Pre-K-8), Chapel Hill

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTERS**

Sacred Heart ECC (Pre-K), Pinehurst  
St. Andrew ECC (Pre-K), Apex  
St. Catherine ECC (Pre-K), Wake Forest  
St. Francis of Assisi ECLC (Pre-K), Raleigh  
St. Joseph Catholic Pre-School (Pre-K), Raleigh  
St. Mark Montessori Pre-School (Pre-K), Wilmington  
St. Mary CDC (Pre-K), Garner  
St. Michael ECC (Pre-K&K), Cary  
St. Raphael ECC (Pre-K), Raleigh

gram for the second time this year. "[Pure Fashion] has opened the door to some great conversations that most teens would shy away from," Morrisette said. "If we can handle these important issues now while she is in our care, we can send her off to college with the confidence that she is prepared."

It isn't just mothers who came out to support their daughters' involvement in Pure Fashion. Sunday's event brought out many fathers who see their role in their daughter's lives as a vital one. Allyson Graham, a participant from Apex, had plenty of support on hand. She was cheered on by her mother, father and sister, all of whom feel Pure Fashion has been a positive experience – not just for Allyson, but each of them. "The legacy I want to leave is to be grounded in Christ and his image," Graham's mother Kristin said. "Pure Fashion shows these girls what that looks like."

Carolina Hurricanes team member, Glen Wesley, was on hand to see his daughter Amanda participate in the show. "[Pure Fashion] shows young women how to live modestly, and in today's society, it is important for them to learn how to present themselves," Wesley said when asked why he feels Pure Fashion is important to him.

This year's show was sponsored in part by Baron Construction, Storr Office Environments, Tuggle & Duggins, Tanas Hair Designs and Michael's Memories Photography. Creative Visions, Inc. provided production services and



**CAN'T MAKE WORLD YOUTH DAY  
IN AUSTRALIA? Join us...**

**JOHN 6:35 BIG EVENT**



**September 26,-28, 2008**  
**Now register at [www.inhisname.com/John635retreat](http://www.inhisname.com/John635retreat)**

Dillard's, Kohl's and Carolina Silver Company provided clothing and accessories.

**For more information,** check out <http://www.purefashion.com>.

*By Amanda Cadran*



## things to do:

**Priesthood ordination.** Deacons Michael Spurr and Romen Acero will be ordained to the priesthood Saturday, June 7 at 10 a.m. at St. Thomas More Church, 940 Carmichael St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

**Tony Melendez Solidarity Tour Concert.** June 18, 7p.m. at Holy Redeemer by the Sea Church, Kitty Hawk. Sponsored by America United Mano al Hermano, an Outer Banks organization that works to educate both the Latino and Anglo communities on the importance of tolerance and cultural diversity. For more information, call Kay Minis at 252.255.1171.

**Faithful Servant Leadership Institute.** June 15-20 at Ridgecrest Conference Center, Asheville. Learn to serve as Jesus did. This program is for youth (9-12 grade) who want to develop and use their leadership skills, and for the adults who work with them. Learn valuable tools for your parish and for life! This event is jointly sponsored by the Dioceses of Charlotte and Raleigh and this year will be hosted by the Diocese of Charlotte. For information, contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or Hagarty@raldioc.org.

**3rd Diocesan Encuentro.** The 3rd Diocesan Youth and Young Adults Encuentro will take place June 21 at Cardinal Gibbons High School, 1401 Edwards Mill Road, Raleigh from 8:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. This year's theme will be, "Be Not Afraid." This is intended for all youth and single young adults (14-30 years old) and it will be in Spanish. Activities include: 1. Logo Contest. 2. Knowledge of Catholic Catechism contest. This is to encourage our Hispanic youth

and young adults to learn our catechism in a fun and interesting way. 3. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. 4. Holy Eucharist celebrated by Bishop Michael Burbidge. 5. A concert by Tony Melendez to close the day. It will be open to the public for free, but an offering will be taken up during the concert. The deadline to register is May 26. All participants must be pre-registered in their parish registration forms.

►► **There will not be any registration at the door.**

**Youth Ministers' Institute,** June 25-26 at Short Journey Center, Smithfield. This is a time to gather all adults who work with youth within the Diocese of Raleigh. It is a time for professional and spiritual development, networking, relaxation and renewal.

**4th Annual North Carolina Black Catholic Conference.** June 27-29. Celebrating 30 years of ministry in the Diocese of Raleigh. The conference will have wonderful keynote speakers and workshops to address the needs of the community of African descent. Location: Sheraton Capital Center. Cost: \$175, family of four \$300.

Attention all young people, 8th grade through college (ages 13-30)!! **Can't make World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia?** Join us for the JOHN 6:35 BIG EVENT Sept. 26-28 in Wake Forest. The message of World Youth Day is being spread throughout the U.S. by an initiative of these Eucharistic retreats. It's a weekend lead by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal full of awesome music, prayer, adoration and sharing our Catholic faith. Contact your youth minister or register online at [www.inhisname.com/john635retreat](http://www.inhisname.com/john635retreat) now!

## Taking wing...

"What will strengthen your faith after graduation?"



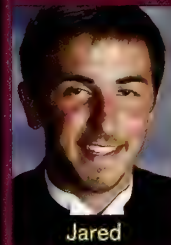
Marc



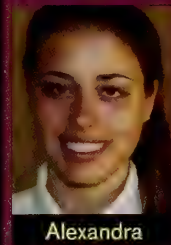
Ashley



Nick



Jared



Alexandra



Jackie

►► This month, we asked high school seniors, "After you graduate, how will you keep your Catholic faith strong?"

►► **Marc, St. Thomas More Academy:** When I go to college, the most important thing for sustaining my faith will be a strong group of friends on whom I can rely for strength, guidance and encouragement.

►► **Ashley, Cardinal Gibbons High School:** "After I've graduated, the most important factor in sustaining my Catholic faith will be my complete and full trust in God, to trust that I will be sent down the right path toward the truth and that he will help me live out that truth every day of my life by loving others."

►► **Nick, LifeTeen member at St. Michael's, Cary:** "I plan to get involved in campus ministry, find a church close by and go! And I still will be participating in events here, like Search for Christian maturity."

►► **Jared, Cardinal Gibbons High School:** "The most important thing for me will be to surround myself with the right people. I'd like to be involved in service organizations to help members of the community and share my God-given talents."

►► **Alexandra, St. Thomas More Academy:** "Remembering that Christ is the motivation for all I do, I will view the world through his eyes, striving to shine with the same compassion, brilliance, grace and superabundant love."

►► **Jackie, St. Michael Life-Teen member:** "I've already met some of our alumni involved in campus ministry at the college I'll attend. And I'll keep coming back here to St. Michael's, staying involved here."



## Sister Marianne Meehan, IHM

► Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Marianne died in Immaculata, Pa., on April 11. She was 81 years old.

Born Anne Loretta Meehan in Philadelphia, Pa., she entered the Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in 1945. During her years of apostolic ministry, Sister served for 12 years at Sacred Heart School, Raleigh.

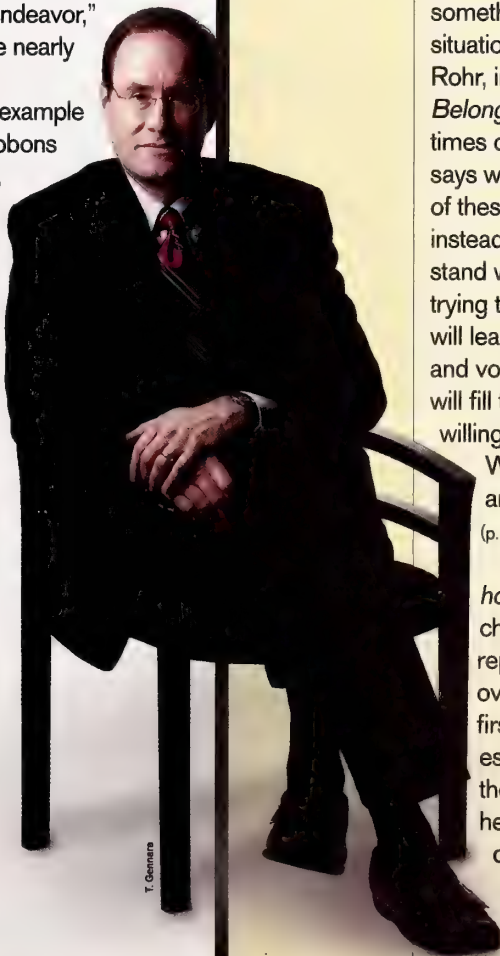
## CGHS Students reach out

► During the week of March 11, 18 students at Cardinal Gibbons High School collected \$31,258.24 that they, in turn, will donate to local and national charitable organizations. In the past, the money collected from the annual fundraiser, called the Penny Challenge and long a tradition at the school, has been donated to such groups as the Diocesan Ministries, Cross Roads International Catholic Outreach, the Healing Place, the Catholic Defense Fund, and Ronald McDonald House in association with Duke Children's Hospital. The theme of this year's Penny Challenge was "Pay It Forward."

"It is energizing to see the faculty and staff's overwhelming enthusiasm for the Penny Challenge, and inspiring to see our mission of faith, service and leadership come alive in this community endeavor," said Jason D. Curtis, principal of the nearly century-old Catholic high school.

The Penny Challenge is just one example of the ways students at Cardinal Gibbons reach out to the community. Indeed, each of the school's 1,135 students participates in an Outreach Service Program, which results in more than 10,000 hours of annual community service. The Penny Challenge, however, has long been a favorite among students at Cardinal Gibbons High School, and it involves the entire 1,135-member student body. The event is designed as a competition between the different classes, from freshmen to seniors, to see which class will raise the most money.

The class raising the most money wins the competition and is honored with a breakfast given by the school's Lancer Club, which sponsors the fundraiser. The club offers students the opportunity to do service for community or church organizations.



T. Gennaro

## What to do if you're in a dead-end job



Tom has been working for the same company since he graduated from college. He's feeling as if he's in a rut and doesn't know how to get out.

**Q** **Tom says:** I've been trying desperately to move on in my career but I'm stuck in the same position. I went back to school and tried various self-improvement and professional improvement programs, but I don't know if they really did any good. I struggle with the same stresses and tedious tasks day after day. Opportunities come up that seem perfect for me but something always happens and they fall through. I can't figure out why I'm hopelessly stuck in this position. Sometimes I feel like I'm being punished or something.

**A** Often we don't take advantage of these voids in our lives. We're too focused on wanting out of an uncomfortable position so that we can be "happy" again. We don't stop to consider there might be something to gain from our situation. Father Richard Rohr, in his book *Everything Belongs*, writes about these times of fear and anxiety. He says we often try to get out of these situations too soon, instead of trying to understand what the situation is trying to teach us: "... grace will lead us into those fears and voids, and grace alone will fill them up, if we are willing to stay in the void.

We mustn't engineer an answer too quickly." (p. 143)

In the movie *Groundhog Day*, Bill Murray's character is stuck repeating the same day over and over again. At first, he finds it interesting and he lives in the fast lane because he's immune from the consequences of his actions. This nov-

elty soon turns to boredom, however, and he becomes depressed and distraught. Finally, he accepts his situation and recognizes the value of the resources available to him. He learns new skills, and becomes attentive to the people around him and the ways in which he can serve them. Toward the end of the movie he has become a new person with new skills and a new attitude, but he still wishes to move on with his life. Finally, **when the time is right**, he wakes up to a new day, ready to devour life.

St. Paul teaches this in his letter to James when he writes: "Consider it all joy, my brothers, when you encounter various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. And let perseverance be perfect, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." (1:2-4) If Tom heeds St. Paul's guidance, although he is not happy in his trials, he will understand the value of his circumstances and how God is preparing him for the next stage in his life.

- Tim Ryan





Latino population has skyrocketed in 10 years from 5 percent to 60 percent. St. Eugene's celebrates six Masses on weekends, three in English and three in Spanish.

"When people come here," Fr. Lapauw explains, "they see immediately that this is a bilingual parish, that all are equal here." The entire Sunday bulletin is ren-

**I**n the archives of the *NC Catholic* newspaper, there is an entertaining history of St. Eugene Parish in Wendell, written by Msgr. Frederick Koch in 1973, on the occasion of the parish's 25th anniversary. (The parish administrator at the time was the newly ordained Fr. Tim O'Connor.) Msgr. Koch writes in detail about the founding families, immigrants from Lebanon, who lent their energy, resources and homes to the fledgling congregation in the early 20th century. He also praises the "hyphenated pastors," priests with other assignments (three with the Diocesan newspaper, two chaplains at N.C. State University, a Diocesan Chancellor, a Director of Catholic Social Services, and a full-time missionary) who ministered part-time at St. Eugene.

With the redistribution of population and the construction boom following the Second World War, the Diocese authorized the building of a permanent church, which was dedicated in August 1948, with Fr. Koch serving as the priest assigned to this new community. In his anniversary history, Msgr. Koch shared some stories of bucolic parish life in the '50s and '60s: "We recall with pleasure the picnics at Tarpley's Mill, the Sunday dinners at various homes and the meetings of the Altar Society. There was the time when Fr. Koch dropped an IOU in the vigil light offering box to get a hamburger when he was broke, and the time when a pastor was touched on the shoulder by the law for shooting down quail beyond the quota, and

then that night had a supper at the rectory in which the evidence was eaten."

This year, as St. Eugene's celebrates its 60th anniversary (in a larger church dedicated in 1991), much has changed. Since 2002, the parish has been served by the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (CICM), the first international religious missionary order, founded in Belgium in 1862. The CICMs in the U.S. have specially trained for, and eagerly accepted, apostolates serving African American and Hispanic populations, a perfect fit for Wendell, where, according to current pastor Father Joseph Lapauw, the

# Thanks to God

St. Eugene, Wendell

dered in English and Spanish, and the Pastoral Council and all the parish ministry committees have members from both groups.

The challenge in this environment is twofold: to adjust the structure of the parish to correspond to changing realities, and to unify the groups, while accommodating their differences. St. Eugene's holds many events each year in which all participate. Perhaps the best known is its International Food Festival in September, which has expanded beyond its parish beginnings to

draw people of all backgrounds from the entire surrounding area.

Plans for St.

Eugene's near future include the extension of the existing church building for religious education, and construction of a new church. As Fr. Lapauw describes the shifting dynamics of his parish, one phrase repeatedly punctuates his narrative: "Thanks to God." Clearly, this is a Catholic community that embraces change with gratitude. ☺



the Diocese of Raleigh

## resource

St. Eugene, Wendell

608 Lions Club Road, Wendell, NC 27591

parish office: 919.365.7114



# Retirement Income you can depend on

With all the ups and downs in the financial markets, many of our older friends are turning to the Catholic Church's Charitable Gift Annuity program to create a steady, dependable stream of lifetime income. They like knowing that every quarter they will receive the same amount, year in and year out.

They like the other benefits, too. Things like a good payment rate (up to 11.3%) and income that is partially tax-free. They like the income tax charitable deduction they receive and, of course, the fact that they are helping to secure the future of their Church.

To learn more, fill out the coupon below and send it to the office of Stewardship and Development. Once we know your age and the size of the gift you want to make, and whether it will be cash or stock, we can prepare an easy-to-read gift illustration that will tell you:



- How much you will receive for the rest of your life ?
- How much of your quarterly income will be tax-free ?
- How big your income tax charitable deduction will be ?
- How your gift annuity will benefit the Catholic Church ?

**Easy  
to do!**

To request information, fill out the form and mail to:

Office of Stewardship and Development; 715 Nazareth Street; Raleigh, NC 27606-2187

☐ Please send me the brochure, The Charitable Gift Annuity: Answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

☐ I would like a personal illustration of how a charitable gift annuity would benefit me.

Use the amount checked for my illustration: ☐ \$50,000 ☐ \$25,000 ☐ \$10,000 ☐ other \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive my payments: ☐ quarterly ☐ semi-annually ☐ annually.

The proposal should be prepared for: ☐ me only; my birth date is \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please include a second individual whose birth date is \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ THIS INFORMATION IS

Address \_\_\_\_\_ STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Visit our Estate Planning Web Site:

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.

*Celebrate the opening of a  
most incredible lifestyle!*

**NOW  
OPEN!**

**Pennybyrn at Maryfield is the toast of the town!**

Here at the Triad's newest continuing care retirement community in High Point, you'll find a casual lifestyle rich in fulfillment. You'll love the picturesque setting. The rich tradition of the sponsors—the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God. And the healthy approach to your retirement years.

So here's to new opportunities...new friends...and new peace of mind...here's to your future, at Pennybyrn at Maryfield!

Visit us today, or call (336) 821-4050 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor  
Servants of the Mother of God

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

109 Penny Road, High Point, NC 27260

NP/NCC/3-08





# HEROES OF SACRIFICE SEMINARIANS



**LUIS ELADIO HERNANDEZ**  
ST CHARLES BORROMEO  
THEOLOGY/ESL



**SERGIO HERNAN VELEZ**  
ST CHARLES BORROMEO  
THEOLOGY/ESL

Pray for our seminarians by name, especially for **Eladio Hernandez** and **Sergio Velez**, as they continue their formation for the Priesthood.

**Need help discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life?**

Contact Father Ned Shlesinger  
919.832.6280 / [vocations@raldioc.org](mailto:vocations@raldioc.org)

**Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh**  
[www.dioceseofraleigh.org/vocations](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/vocations)



April 2008



**NC Catholics**

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



please recycle



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514  
113774 P 14 1384  
SERIALS DEPARTMENT 37173  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
UNC CHAPEL HILL  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

July 2008

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

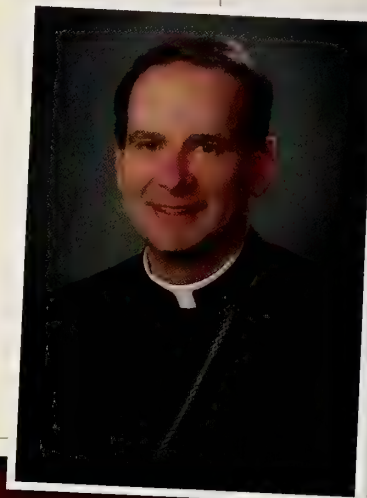


## Meet Our New Priests Ordained for the Diocese of Raleigh!

Two men, two countries, two paths to service



**O**ur Diocese and the entire Church were greatly blessed on June 7th when, through the Imposition of Hands and the Prayer of Ordination, two new priests were ordained as priests of the Diocese of Raleigh: Reverend Roman Acero and Reverend Michael Spurr. Prior to the Ordination, a friend from out-of-state watched the video interview of these two men on our Diocesan web page, which I encourage you to view. Upon hearing their personal stories and spiritual insights, my friend said, "These men are extremely impressive. You must be very proud." I am certainly very proud of these two priests as I am of all our wonderful seminarians. Father Acero and Father Spurr will be good, holy and zealous priests. I join you in wishing them much happiness in their first priestly assignment and always. I also express sincere congratulations to Father Gregory Plow, T.O.R., from our Diocese, who was ordained a Franciscan priest on May 24, 2008, and wish him abundant blessings.



Many priests of the Diocese concelebrated the Ordination Mass and our two new priests are blessed now to share in this unique and

**"To dwell in His love  
and to make His love shine forth for others"**

tremendous fraternity of the Priesthood. In their brother-priests, the newly-ordained will find great support and wonderful example. I express renewed thanks to all of our priests for the generous priestly service they offer in our Diocese and to the entire Church.

Also in attendance at the Ordination Mass were Deacons, Consecrated Religious, seminarians, family and friends of the newly-ordained, young people, seniors and lay faithful from throughout the entire Diocese. The Ordination Mass provided me the opportunity to thank all of them as well as all of my sisters and brothers in Christ for the countless ways you demonstrate your love and respect for the ordained Priesthood. I am particularly grateful for those who assure me that you pray every day for our priests and for our seminarians by name, as well as for the intention that the Diocese of Raleigh will be blessed with more priests and an increase of vocations to Consecrated Life. I am confident that the Master of the Harvest will hear our prayers and abundantly bless us.

As Father Acero and Father Spurr begin their new assignments they will have countless responsibilities and obligations. However, in my homily at the Ordination Mass, I reminded them of the words that Pope Benedict XVI spoke to priests and future priests on the occasion of his recent pastoral visit to the United States. The Holy Father encouraged us to remember what truly counts before the Lord: "To dwell in His love and to make His love shine forth for others." Above all else, the priest must be a man of prayer who grows daily in his intimate relationship with the Lord. Then, he is strengthened to be a powerful instrument of the healing and compassionate love of the Lord, as he goes forth in service, as he proclaims the Good News and as he exercises his sacramental ministry, most especially the daily offering of Mass.

The important reminder the Holy Father offers is meant for all of us as we strive to live faithfully the vocation the Lord has entrusted to us. In the midst of the many demands and responsibilities that often consume us, it is essential that daily, especially at the beginning and conclusion of the day, we find a silent moment to pray and to dwell in the Lord. In our prayer, we not only call upon God's help, we hear the gentle whisper of His voice constantly guiding, encouraging and leading us. In these summer months and always, please continue as individuals and as families to dwell in the Lord's love in silent prayer and through your active participation at weekly Mass so that you will be sustained by His Word and nourished by His Eucharist. Renew also your commitment to make His love shine forth for others. Please be especially mindful of those in your family and those around you who may be in need of your time, attention, kindness, generosity and forgiveness and need to see in you the Light of Christ.

At the conclusion of my homily at the Ordination Mass, I entrusted Father Acero and Father Spurr and their priestly ministries to the care and protection of Mary Our Mother. Through her intercession and with the grace of Her Son, may our new priests and each one of us renew each day our promise to dwell in His love and to make His love shine forth for others!

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh.



cover  
story

**Meet  
Our New  
Priests  
Ordained  
for the  
Diocese of  
Raleigh!**

► Two men,  
two countries,  
two paths to  
service

— Dana Lorelle

# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

## from the Bishop

**2** "To dwell in His love and to make His love shine forth for others"

— Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

## since you asked ...

**6** Dear NCC: Have you heard the "Fire in the Clinic" argument used to support the destruction of embryos? Can you comment?

— Father Tad Pacholczyk

## from the editor

**7** "An Unseen Love" — Rich Reece

## theology 101

**8** What are the steps to becoming Catholic? — Rita Thiron

## voices in our church

**11** Fifty Years of Priesthood, 50 Years of Grace — Msgr. Thomas Hadden

**11** Sacerdotes de Dios Para Su Pueblo  
— Padre Fernando Torres



## spiritual fitness

**22** Life's ordinary miracles:  
Where to find God in everyday  
experiences — Father Bill Ashbaugh

## work life

**29** Cutting corners  
or just stupid?  
What to do when  
you disagree  
with management  
decisions  
— Tim Ryan



## parish profile

**30** A Willingness to Give — Sacred  
Heart, Southport — Rich Reece

## el hispano Católico

## 18 el hispano católico

► Conozca a los nuevos sacerdotes de la Diócesis de Raleigh

Dos hombres, dos países,  
dos caminos con el mismo fin

— Dana Lorelle

## 20 Querido lector de NCC

► Querido lector:

¿Alguna vez ha escuchado el dicho "fuego en la clínica" cuando se refieren a la destrucción de embriones? ¿Cuál es su opinión?

— El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

## 21 Obispo Burbidge

► "resaltar Su amor y hacer que brille para los demás"

— Obispo Michael F. Burbidge

# 12



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
**PUBLISHER**

Frank Morock  
**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**

July 2008 • Vol. 4 : Issue 5

Richard Reece  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Holly Stringer  
**ADVERTISING MANAGER**

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Amanda Cadran  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Dana Lorelle  
Father Tad Pacholczyk  
Father Fernando Torres  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Nathalie Fuerst  
**TRANSLATOR**

Eddie Arrossi Photography (cover)  
Paul Tomás Photography  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
**CHAIRMAN**

Patrick M. O'Brien  
**PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
**EDITORIAL DIRECTOR**

Vicki Bedard  
**DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING**

Jillane Job  
**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT**

Patricia Oliver  
**SECRETARY**

Patrick Dally  
**ART DIRECTOR**

Lynne Ridenour  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNER/WEB MASTER**

Matthew Tiller  
Abby Wieber  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNERS**

Betsy Miner  
**PROOFREADING**

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Tim Ryan  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

InnerWorkings  
**PRINT MANAGEMENT**

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and June. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail [nccatholics@raldioc.org](mailto:nccatholics@raldioc.org). Periodicals postage paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™ Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

**Give the gift of  
NCCatholics:**

**Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730**

## Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, July 20-26

**T**his month, Catholic Bishops across the U.S. are making a special effort to call attention to Natural Family Planning (NFP). NFP is an umbrella term for certain methods used to achieve and avoid pregnancies. These methods are based on observation of the naturally occurring signs and symptoms of the fertile and infertile phases of a woman's menstrual cycle. Couples using NFP to avoid pregnancy abstain from intercourse and genital contact during the fertile phase of the woman's cycle. No drugs, devices, or surgical procedures are used to avoid pregnancy. NFP reflects the dignity of the human person within the context of marriage and family life, promotes openness to life, and recognizes the value of the child. By respecting the love-giving and life-giving natures of marriage, NFP can enrich the bond between husband and wife.

The Church teaches that the sacrament of marriage symbolizes Christ's relationship with His Church, a relationship of generous, self-sacrificing passion-filled and fruitful love. When couples live their vocation according to Church teachings, especially with regard to the transmission of life, many benefits can be reaped. Indeed, married couples who use Natural Family Planning report that the benefits include better communication between spouses; deeper understanding of each other's bodies and consequent growth in respect and awe of God's gift of fertility; growth in patience and emotional maturity; growth in understanding of the supreme gift of children; and growth in holiness as they seek to place God as the head of the household.

The dates of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week highlight the anniversary of Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (July 25) which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood. The dates also mark the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne (July 26), the parents of the Blessed Mother. For further information, contact [nfp@uscbb.org](mailto:nfp@uscbb.org).

For a personal perspective on NFP, NC Catholics interviewed Tracy and Anthony Smith, members of St. Mark's Parish in Wilmington and certified NFP



teachers. They live in Wilmington with their four children: Rachel (8), Luke (6 1/2), Sarah (4), and Rebekah (6 months old). The couple will start a three-session class on Sunday, July 13.

### **Tracy and Anthony, how did you become advocates and teachers of NFP?**

We first heard about NFP from my mother when Anthony and I were engaged. She mentioned the Catholic Church's teaching on NFP, and since we were getting married in the Catholic Church we decided to find out more about what the Church taught. We then looked further into this teaching and registered for NFP classes as an engaged couple



in Raleigh while we were attending NC State. Anthony and I had very little background knowledge about NFP before we sat in on the classes. Over time, we grew to understand the method and became more confident in its effectiveness to postpone and achieve pregnancy.

More importantly, though, we embraced the Church's teaching on marriage and family through learning NFP together. We have come to realize that our fertility is truly a gift to be understood, not a disease to be eliminated. It didn't take us long to also realize that the Catholic Church's teaching on NFP is a gift to help marriages become stronger. We became teachers of NFP and continue to promote it so that others will be able to experience the joy that we have felt in our marriage.

**The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Web site ([nfp@uscceb.org](mailto:nfp@uscceb.org)) lists "Myths and Realities" about NFP. In your experience, what is the most frequent obstacle or misunderstanding couples cite regarding NFP?**

It's this question: "If a couple is using NFP to postpone pregnancy and another couple is using contraception to postpone pregnancy, what is the difference between NFP and contraception if both couples want

to postpone pregnancy?" The short answer is that there are at least four enormous differences between NFP and contraception. The first is the morality of the act; the second deals with the fact that some contraceptives work by causing abortions; the third issue pertains to adverse side effects that are caused by contraceptives; and the last issue deals with the fruits of NFP.

**Tracy, in your experience, what is the most rewarding effect of NFP?**

It has helped our marriage grow stronger. When we were first married, we were from two different faith backgrounds. Anthony grew up in a Baptist home

while I was born and raised a Catholic. (Anthony did become a Catholic at Easter in 2006.) Although we had different faith backgrounds, we both agreed that contraception in our marriage would not be a natural part of our marital covenant. One of the blessings of NFP has been witnessing the total respect and commitment by Anthony to me. At the end of some long days there have been times that I have forgotten to write down my fertility signs on my chart. Anthony has reminded me on these days to write down my daily observations so that chart interpretation would be much more successful between us. Anthony's gentle and simple reminders not only help me to be consistent with my chart data, but his words of encouragement show me that he loves me completely, including the daily changes that are occurring within my body.

I appreciate how Anthony and I work together to interpret my charts. During these intimate discussions we are constantly talking to one another about our dreams, desires and goals for each other and our children and any future children that we may prayerfully add to our family size. From the very beginning when we took classes as an engaged couple to present day when we juggle our family life with teaching couples

NFP, Anthony has never wavered in his commitment to promote, teach and support NFP. There have been several times in our marriage when abstaining to postpone pregnancy has been difficult because of unpredictable postpartum cycles or prolonged illnesses. Through it all, Anthony has always loved and encouraged me. It is a true gift for me to have my husband love and respect my body and fertility the way I was made by our Creator. For both of us, this is total love and respect in our marriage.

**►► For more information and resources on NFP, visit [nfp@uscceb.org](mailto:nfp@uscceb.org).**



Father Ned Shlesinger spoke with youth at the convention on vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

## Diocesan Youth Consider the Mystery of the Trinity

►► Approximately 750 students, staff and chaperones attended the Annual Diocesan Youth Convention, held at the Greenville Convention Center, May 16-18. The assembly began Friday evening, May 16 and concluded Sunday, May 18 with the celebration of Mass with the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge presiding.

The theme of this year's assembly was The Mystery of the Holy Trinity. In his homily, Bishop Burbidge expressed hope that the convention reminded the students of how much God loves them. "As a loving Father, He will never give you anything in life to hurt you but rather everything you need to live a life of joy," the Bishop said. "That love does not demand that you be perfect. That love does not disappear when you fail. That love is not something you must earn. That love is pure gift, infinite and unconditional."

At the beginning of Mass, Bishop Burbidge expressed his sympathy to the convention attendees about the unexpected death Saturday of 18-year-old Ryan Aman, a member of Saint Bernadette's Church in Fuquay-Varina. Ryan became ill during the convention. Bishop Burbidge told the gathering the Mass was being offered "for Ryan's eternal happiness and peace." He asked those assembled "to pray that Ryan's mother and family be granted the grace and strength that they need." The Bishop added, "Our most special gift is the gift of prayer, entrusting her and her son to God's care."

**We have come to realize that our fertility is truly a gift to be understood, not a disease to be eliminated. It didn't take us long to also realize that the Catholic Church's teaching on NFP is a gift to help marriages become stronger.**



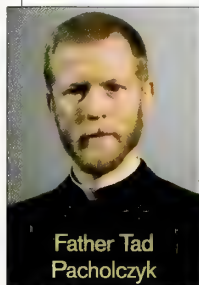
**Dear NCC: Have you heard the “Fire in the Clinic” argument used to support the destruction of embryos? Can you comment?**

**Y**es. The argument often begins like this: Suppose there is a fire in a fertility clinic. You are the only adult present, and there is a newborn baby and a tank of liquid nitrogen with 5,000 frozen embryos in the clinic. You can save only one of them before the place burns down – which would you choose?

Only the most passionate and radical extremist, so the argument goes, would save the container with the embryos instead of the newborn baby. This seems to demonstrate what advocates of embryonic stem cell research have been saying all along, namely, that everybody makes a moral distinction between embryos and children, and that killing embryos cannot be on the same moral level as killing children. Embryo destruction, they conclude, poses no real moral problem if they are killed for research to benefit others.

Yet it is clear that this argument fails to justify what it proposes.

We can see this by modifying the story line slightly. Imagine three beautiful baby sisters who were just born, lying together and sleeping in the same hospital bed. The father of these girls is in the waiting room down the hall. In another bed next to the girls is their mother, unconscious and recuperating from surgery. The father is the only person in the hospital ward, when suddenly a massive fire flares up. He runs down the hallway to rescue his family, but he can only choose one bed to roll out of the ward before the fire completely engulfs the room and makes it impossible to rescue anyone else. If he chooses to rescue his wife, rather than his three daughters, does that mean there is a moral distinction between his daughters and his wife? Does that in any way imply that he would accept the idea of his daughters being experimented on by researchers or sacrificed for science? Certainly not – such a conclusion would never follow from his action. The fact that he chose to save his wife would not indicate that he valued his three daughters any less than his wife, or that he viewed them as being less human than his wife. It might rather indicate that because he had spent a lot of time with his wife over the years, he was more emotionally attached



**Father Tad Pacholczyk**

– Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)

## Dear NCC

This month with  
**Father Tad Pacholczyk**

to her, knew the sound of her voice, and on a first emotional level responded to his lifelong friendship with her. It says nothing about how valuable his daughters really are, even to their own dad. For the case of the embryos who might get left behind, the same is true: rescuing the infant says nothing about the embryos’ intrinsic worth and dignity, because the rescuer may first be reacting to what is most familiar to him, namely, the newborn baby.

As a priest and bioethicist, I often am asked the awkward question of what parents should do with their leftover embryos following in vitro fertilization. Parental anguish and guilt are almost palpable in our conversations as they struggle to figure out a way to free their own children trapped in these frozen orphanages. Having personally met a number of such parents, I am convinced that some of them, if they had to face the fire, might well choose their own embryos over somebody else’s newborn. The family connection runs deep, and I have even spoken with men who responded that for the case of their three daughters vs. their wife, they would stay in the clinic trying to save the whole family, even if it meant they would all end up perishing in the flames.

When it comes to a flash decision, then, as the fire rages in the clinic, this hypothetical case misses the essential question of what our moral obligations really are towards the human embryo. Instead, we are facing a hopelessly artificial and improbable triage situation, which can never be a legitimate basis for determining or deducing moral principles. In a frightening and difficult moment, it involves making split-second decisions, rather than engaging in calm, principled moral reason-

**As a priest and bioethicist, I often am asked the awkward question of what parents should do with their “leftover” embryos following in vitro fertilization.**



ing. As we proceed to make that awful decision, we may instinctively sense how the newborn baby is already moving along a path towards becoming an adult member of society. Saving the newborn thus contributes to a reasonably certain future outcome – whereas saving the embryos does not raise such practical certainty about their future or their ultimate fate. Some embryos from the tank might end up being implanted into their mother's womb, but still die or undergo selective reduction. Some might be destroyed because they are deemed unfit by clinic operators; others might be handed over to researchers for embryo-destructive experiments; many might still remain in the deep freeze indefinitely. If I were to grab the newborn out of the fire, that action says nothing meaningful about my thoughts on the moral value of human embryos trapped in the freezer, but speaks more to a snap judgment about foreseeable outcomes in a crisis or triage situation.

This scenario reminds us that making complex moral decisions under duress is not easy and will necessarily depend on many factors – the particular circumstances, familial relations, perceived likely outcomes and other emotional details of the case. It also reminds us how the process of reaching correct ethical judgments does not ultimately depend on dreaming up exasperating and unrealistic scenarios as the justification for those conclusions. The case of the fire in the clinic does remind us, nevertheless, that embryos are unfamiliar to us, so that we may react differently to them than we would to a fully formed baby. But it should also serve to remind us how embryos are not supposed to be familiar to us, and are not supposed to be in freezers in the first place, but only in the safe harbor of their mother's womb. This classic argumentative example of the clinic fire ultimately fails to engage the serious question of the inestimable worth of each embryonic human, by a kind of sidestep maneuver that draws us into an emotional response based on what may be most familiar to us in a moment of crisis. In our world today, the clinic is not on fire, and we do not need to make a Solomonic choice between saving embryonic humans and those who are older. We ought to rather work towards building a society that cares for and safeguards them both.

**Send your questions to:**  
**"Since you asked ..."**

715 Nazareth St.  
 Raleigh, NC 27606  
 Or:  
 reece@raldioc.org

## "An Unseen Love"

**Though the form of Ordination has changed, Roseliep's poem expresses an awe at the act of priestly Ordination that has not.**



**O**n each occasion when a priest is ordained, I think of a poem by a priest of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa, Father Raymond Roseliep (1917-1983). Father Roseliep and

his work are not well known these days, but during his lifetime he was considered a master in English of the haiku – that short, three-line form of poetry that originated in Japan. Not all his work was haiku, though, and the poem I recalled as Father Romen Acero and Father Michael Spurr were ordained is about his own ordination, in 1943.

The poem is called *The Linen Bands*, and refers to a part of the Ordination Rite from what is now called the *Forma Extraordinaria* of the Mass. In this form, after the Bishop anointed the palms of the ordinandi, he would close the hands so that both palms met, and one of the attendants would bind them with a strip of white linen.

*The priest unbolted strands of white, and bound my thumbs and fingers, like an open wound.  
 Thus I was tied to Christ, or Christ to me.*

Ten years later, that part of the ceremony is the priest's most powerful memory of that day:

*My hands are busy in a blessing way  
 since then, and they absolve and they unite,  
 and in our several sacraments, anoint;  
 they pour a water that is life. Today  
 I pause to wonder why they often shake  
 when lifting bread so light within the Mass...  
 ... and I live to comprehend the meaning under-  
 neath the stringy bond  
 that holds them to an unseen love....*

Though the form of Ordination has changed, Roseliep's poem expresses an awe at the act of priestly Ordination that has not. When Father Spurr and Father Acero were ordained last month, you could see it the eyes of the congregants and especially in the eyes of the new priests and their brother priests in attendance. This sacrament is one of those moments in the life of the Church when you feel that the Mystery of God's own life is very close indeed.

You can read about Father Spurr and Father Acero on page 12 of this issue, and see pictures of a wonderful moment in the life of our Diocese: the Ordination of two new priests. Thanks for continuing to send me your comments at 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.

– Richard Reece is the editor of NC Catholics.



# What are the steps to becoming Catholic?

## What are the steps to becoming Catholic?

We welcome new adult members into our faith with the Church's official rite, The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Developed after Vatican II, it restores a very ancient practice in the Church – a catechumenate process. A catechumen (one under instruction) is called to follow Christ through the “many forms of God's grace” (RCIA 5). His or her journey of faith is a gradual one, done best within a community of the faithful.

With catechesis based on the Scriptures, by living the

## Timeline: 14 major developments in bringing new

### 100 Didache Author Unknown

“Baptize in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, in running water. But if you do not have running water, baptize in other water; and if you cannot in cold water, then in warm. And if you do not have either, pour water three times upon the head, in the name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit. And before baptism, let the baptizer and him that is to be baptized and others first fast one or two days before.”

### 160 First Apology by Justin Martyr

“Then they are led to a place where there is water, and they are reborn after the manner of rebirth by which we were also reborn; for they

are then washed in the name of the Father and Lord of all good things, and of our Savior Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit... After we have thus washed him ... we lead him to those who are called brethren, where they are assembled and make common prayer ... At the conclusion of the prayers, we greet one another with a kiss. Then bread and chalice containing wine mixed with water are presented to the one presiding over the brethren. ... At the end, all present express their approval...”

### 203 de Baptismo by Tertullian

“Those who have prepared

for baptism are urged to pray, with frequent prayers, fastings, and bending of the knee, and all-night vigils, along with the confession of all their sins.”  
“An invocation of the Holy Spirit over the baptismal water... Renunciation of the devil and three-fold creedal interrogations along with three immersions, a post-baptismal anointing... laying on of hands and a welcoming of the Holy Spirit... the neophyte is welcomed into the assembly.”

“Suitable time for initiation is Easter, or if not Easter, then Pentecost, or any day. ‘Christians are made, not born.’”

### Basis For Current RCIA 215 Apostolic Tradition (usually attributed to Hippolytus)

[Period of the Catechumenate] (17-19)  
“Catechumens are instructed for three years, we lay hands on them and dismiss them... If he suffers violence and is put to death before baptism, he shall be justified by having been baptized in his own blood.”

### 350 Mystagogical Catechesis by Cyril of Jerusalem

“... You have been made fit to receive the more sacred



Christian life, by practicing apostolic works, and by celebrating the rites of the Church (RCIA 75), the catechumens (and we) are called to reflect on the value of the Paschal Mystery and on their lives as Catholic Christians. This journey includes periods of preparation and steps which are marked by liturgical rites. Because this process has a particularly paschal character – entering into the dying and rising of Jesus Christ – it is most appropriate that the catechumen is initiated at the Easter Vigil. At that time, he or she will receive all three Sacraments of Initiation

– Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. A period of *mystagogia* (the mysteries revealed) follows. Though intense during the 50 days of Easter, this period is just the beginning of a life-long faith formation and participation in the sacramental life of the Church.

### Who initiates new members into the Church?

We all do! "... the people of God, as represented by the local Church, should understand and show by their concern that the initiation of adults is the responsibility of all the baptized" (RCIA 9).

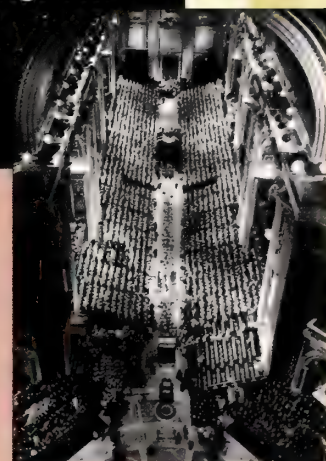
We invite them to know our Savior and to join our Church; we offer hospitality, we answer their questions to the best of our ability, we welcome them to Mass, and we are present at the various rites. We warmly welcome them to the font of life, to the Sacrament of Confirmation and to eat with us at the Lord's Table. His True Presence is in the Holy Eucharist. Some of us may serve as godparents and sponsors; others serve as catechists. Bishops, priests, deacons, RCIA team members have special roles, but we all initiate them into our community of faith.

### For Further Reading

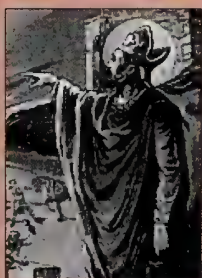
**The Rites of Christian Initiation: Their Evolution and Interpretation.** by Maxwell Johnson Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1999.

**The RCIA: Transforming the Church** by Thomas Morris. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1997.

**The Awe-inspiring Rites of Initiation: The Origins of the RCIA** by Edward Yarnold Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1994.



## Members into the faith



mysteries, having been counted worthy of Divine and life-giving baptism. It remains

therefore to dress for you a board of perfect instruction, let us now teach you exactly about these things, that you may know the deep meaning of the effect wrought upon you on that evening of your baptism."

### 400 **Diary of a Pilgrim** by Egeria

"The Bishop examines the sponsors as to their readiness and writes in the names of the catechumens at the Martyrium. They fast and experience daily exorcisms during the eight [sic.] weeks of Lent.

For three hours each day the Bishop teaches them Scripture. Five weeks later the Bishop presents them the Creed and explains it to them."

### 5-12th centuries

Gradual dissolution of the rites of initiation into three separate sacraments.

Because of high infant mortality rate, children are baptized immediately after birth. In the West, the Bishop reserves the sacrament of Confirmation to himself.

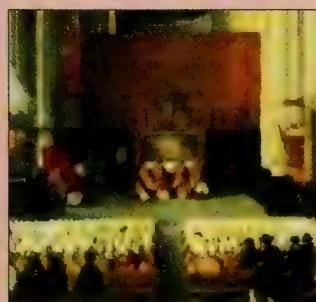
### 1274 Council of Lyons

Declares that the Church has no more or less than seven sacraments.

### 1439 Council of Florence

Declares the sacraments

contain and confer grace.



### 1548-1563

#### The Council of Trent

Defines the sacraments.

### 16-20th centuries

Rite for emergency baptism becomes the norm for both adults and children.

### Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy 1963 Vatican II

"The catechumenate for adults, comprising sev-

eral distinct steps is to be restored and to be put into use at the discretion of the local Bishop. By this means the period of the Catechumenate, which is intended as a time of suitable instruction, may be sanctified by sacred rites to be celebrated at successive intervals."

### 1974 Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

First edition of RCIA is promulgated, intended for pastoral use and study.

### 1988

Use of the RCIA becomes mandatory for use in the U.S.



# St. Bridget created a new order, the Brigittines

**Feast Day: July 23**

**Patron saint of Sweden,  
co-patroness of Europe**

**Canonized: Oct. 7, 1391**

**Meaning of name: Exalted one**

**Claim to fame:** Bridget's father, Birger Persson, was one of the wealthiest landowners in the country. From an early age, Bridget showed a deep interest in religion, and her family fostered this as she grew. Following the death of Bridget's mother, an aunt came to live with the family, and she encouraged Bridget's faith and strong will. At age 13, Bridget married Ulf Gudmarsson, and although marriage had not been her first choice, she was happy. The couple had eight children, among them St. Catherine of Sweden. Bridget's charity made her very well known in Sweden, and she was acquainted with a number of theologians. She even lived in the court of King Magnus Eriksson for several years.

**What made her a saint:** As a girl, Bridget sometimes had religious visions, including one of Mary placing a crown on Bridget's head. Following her husband's death, these visions became more frequent, even believing that Jesus himself visited her. She also founded a convent at Wadstena, and created a new order, the Brigittines. She journeyed to Rome to obtain commendation from the pope which would make her order official, but did not receive commendation. (Her daughter Catherine succeeded in obtaining commendation after Bridget's death.) Bridget remained in Rome for the rest of her life, and was known for her charitable and pious lifestyle.

**Best quote:** Bridget was extremely popular in her homeland of Sweden, and also in Rome. Margery Kempe said of St. Bridget that "she had a laughing face," and was "kind and meek to every creature," which she demonstrated in her service to the Roman poor. — Katie Hicks



# Santa Brígida de Suecia

**Día festivo: 23 de julio**

**Santa Patrona de Suecia, Compatrona de Europa**

**Canonizada: 7 de octubre de 1391**

**Significado del nombre: La Sublime**

**Hechos que la hicieron famosa:** El padre de Brígida, Birger Persson, era uno de los terratenientes más acaudalados del país. Desde muy joven, Brígida mostró un profundo interés por la religión y su familia fomentó esto a medida que crecía. Luego de la muerte de Brígida, vino a vivir con la familia una tía, y ella animó la fe y fuerte voluntad de Brígida. A los 13 años, Brígida se casó con Ulf Gudmarsson, y aunque el matrimonio no había sido su primera elección, ella estaba feliz. La pareja tuvo ocho niños, entre ellos a Santa Catalina de Suecia. La caridad de Brígida la hizo muy famosa en Suecia, y ella conoció a muchos teólogos, y hasta vivió en la corte del Rey Magnus Eriksson por varios años.

**Qué la hizo una santa:** Cuando era niña, Brígida algunas veces tuvo visiones religiosas, una de María que colocaba una corona en la cabeza de Brígida inclusive. Luego de la muerte de su marido, estas visiones se hicieron más frecuentes, aún creyendo que Jesús mismo la visitaba. Ella también fundó un convento en Wadstena, y creó una nueva orden, la Brigidinas. Ella viajó a Roma para obtener una distinción del papa que oficializara su orden, pero no la obtuvo. (Sin embargo, después de la muerte de Brígida, su hija Catalina la obtuvo). Brígida permaneció en Roma por el resto de su vida, y fue conocida por su estilo de vida caritativo y devoto.

**Mejor cita:** Brígida era extremadamente popular en su tierra de Suecia y también en Roma. Margery Kempe dijo de Santa Brígida que «tenía una cara risueña» y era «bondadosa y mansa para con todas las criaturas», lo que demostró en su servicio a los pobres de Roma.

**This month in history –  
in what year was Mother Teresa born?**

►► Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu – better known to the world as Mother Teresa of Calcutta – was born in Skopje, Macedonia on **August 27, WHAT YEAR?** The nun founded the Missionaries of Charity to serve the poorest of the poor in India, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for her humanitarian work.

►► Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, who immigrated to the United States



from Italy in 1889, became the first American citizen to be canonized a saint on **July 7, WHAT YEAR?** Mother Cabrini was sent to the United States to minister to Italian immigrants, and before her death, she had founded more than 60 schools, hospitals, orphanages and convents to serve immigrants and the poor of all nationalities in the United States and other countries.

Answers: 1910, 1946



## Fifty Years of Priesthood, 50 Years of Grace

**T**here have been quite a few happenings recently focusing on priesthood in our Diocese of Raleigh. As you will read in this month's cover story, the Diocese recently celebrated the Ordination of Father Romen Acero and Father Michael Spurr. And there are 19 young men in preparation for the priesthood in the seminary. We must pray that the number increases.

I am also aware that several of our priests have celebrated or will soon celebrate jubilees, including Msgr. Sherba, Father Saxon, Father Busicchio, Msgr. O'Connor, Father Tom Davis, and Father Smith, O.P., our Vicar for Priests. In December, Msgr. Moeslein and I will celebrate our 50th Jubilees.

These almost 50 years have been, for me, a time of wonderful, grace-filled ministry. They also have been a time of challenge. I grew up in the "Old Church." Six years later the so-called "New Church" was born. The Church, however, is always the Church: always old, always new, faithful and true to Her mandate to proclaim the Gospel, celebrate the sacraments and teach the Catholic Faith.

For me, it has been a time of joy. Holy Mass, Baptisms, instructing new Catholics in the faith, spiritual counseling, celebrating the corporal and spiritual works of mercy -- all these give meaning and peace and challenge to priestly ministry. The presence of a parochial school in most of my assignments has also been a grace and a joy.

And I was happy and fortunate to have consecrated religious women with whom to share ministry.

At times there was sorrow. Sorrow caused by people who would not accept God's Word or the teachings of the Church. People who did not want my ministry because of the color of my skin. In the midst of this sorrow, however, was the joy in knowing that the majority of my people were faithful Catholics, and that the majority of my parishioners accepted me with love and welcomed my ministry. I look forward to continued priestly ministry as long as the Lord gives me life.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden

## Sacerdotes de Dios Para Su Pueblo

**E**l llamado a vivir la vocación sacerdotal ha hecho que a lo largo de la historia se busquen modelos que respondan a las necesidades de la Iglesia y del mundo. Muchos hombres han respondido con generosidad y han ofrecido su vida en el servicio de la evangelización, de la formación, de la administración y del culto.

Muchos se han hecho santos porque han respondido a las circunstancias de sus vidas; haciendo que brille la imagen de Cristo en el servicio a los pobres y marginados, en la enseñanza y claridad de la doctrina teológica, en la propagación del Evangelio, en la misericordia con los pecadores y en la forma como los han llamado a la conversión. También en la vivencia de lo que celebran, siendo algunos elocuentes con sus palabras y otros con sus obras, pero todos ellos han encontrado la Santidad en el seguimiento de Jesucristo.

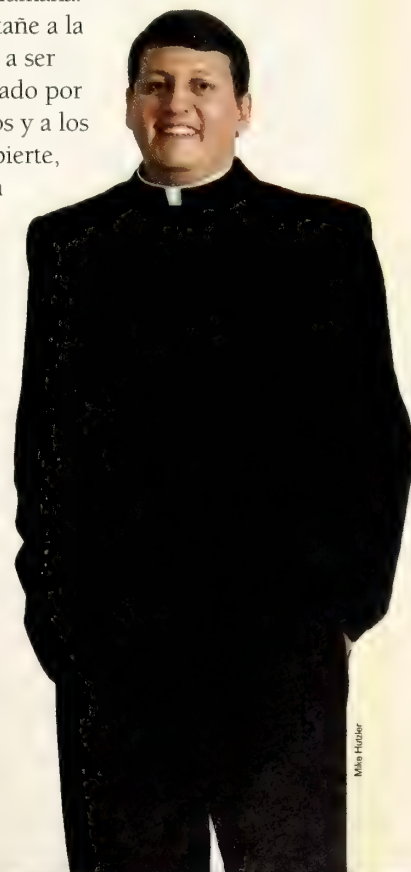
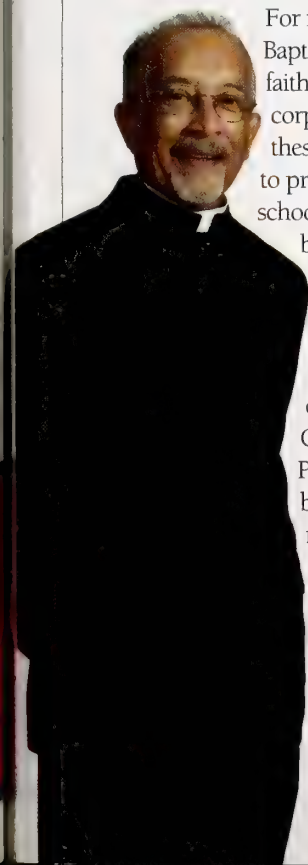
Hoy más que nunca se reconoce la necesidad de la santidad como un requisito indispensable para vivir el sacerdocio. La santidad se vive estando en el mundo, sintiendo a los que sufren, a los que están enfermos, a los que son pecadores, a los que buscan la verdad, la felicidad o la libertad y poder ayudarles a todos a encontrar el camino, la fuente y la meta de toda aspiración humana.

La santidad es servicio en lo que atañe a la persona, al ministerio, a la pastoral y a ser parte de la Iglesia. Servicio que animado por el Espíritu Santo nace del amor a Dios y a los hermanos y hace que su eficacia despierte, anime, ayude y convenza a muchos a seguir a Jesucristo.

La santidad exige fidelidad a Dios, a sus enseñanzas, a su Iglesia y a la humanidad, por lo tanto necesita del espíritu de humildad, del valor de la constancia y del reconocimiento constante de ser simplemente instrumentos de su amor y misericordia para con su pueblo.

La santidad no se gana con intereses egoístas, compitiendo contra otros, o haciéndole mal al prójimo sino haciendo presente a Jesucristo con la vida, con el servicio y con el amor con el que se sirve a su pueblo. Oremos para que siempre tengamos sacerdotes santos.

— Padre Fernando Torres





# Meet Our New Priests Ordained for the Diocese of Raleigh!

Two men, two countries, two paths to service







**A**t first glance, Father Michael Spurr and Father Romen Acero don't have much in common. One hails from the Iowan Midwest, the other from Bogota, Columbia. Backgrounds and languages are distinctly different. But in the same way that the Catholic Church retains the same identity no matter the language or the country, these two men, on June 7, knelt and received something very extraordinary that they will forever hold in common: The Sacrament of Holy Orders. ►



## Father Romen A. Acero

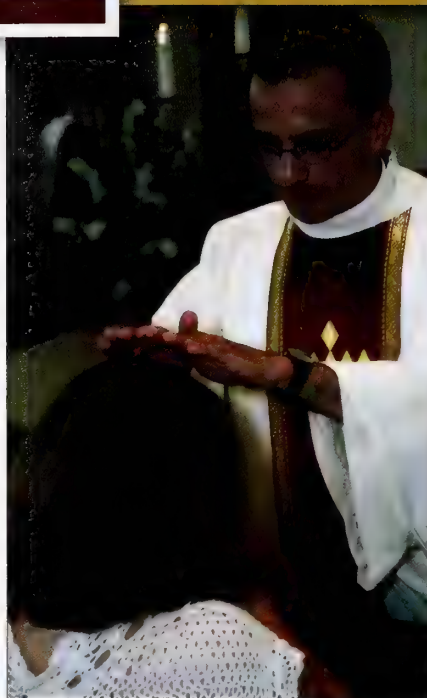
**F**ather Romen Alfred Acero Molina wants to be the kind of priest that he looked up to as a child in Columbia. “The pastor from my home parish and the nuns were important and a great support during my discernment process,” he said. “The way they performed the ministry in my parish was a wonderful example of priestly and religious life. It was God’s grace, and also thanks to the pastor and nuns’ amazing example – they led me to love and to understand the Church.”

His parents were also central to his formation for a priestly vocation. “My mother had a big influence on me because she taught me to be a good Catholic,” he said. “My parents were wonderful people; they taught us to care about our neighbors.”

Acero grew up with three younger brothers, all of whom still live in Bogota, as does his mother. His father died nine years ago.

As a youth, he drew closer to God by immersing himself in parish life; he participated in the youth group and served as a catechist, activities that he knows helped keep him full of faith when so many around him were losing it. The pastor noted the young man’s zeal and encouraged him to consider the priesthood.

He first heard God’s call at age 14. Over the next few years, he was always closely aligned with the Church; after high school and some work experience, he attended a seminary in Bogota for two years, then taught philosophy at a Catholic high school.



“All these experiences helped me to discover that God calls me to serve the Church by being a priest,” he said.

But it wasn’t until several years later that a friend, Father Fernando Torres, approached him about becoming a priest in the U.S. Invited to apply for the priesthood in the Diocese of Raleigh, Acero went through interviews with Father Torres, then Diocesan Vicar for Hispanic Ministry, and with Msgr. Michael Clay, then the Diocesan Director of Vocations.

In 2002, Acero officially became a seminarian with the Diocese and enrolled at St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore, Md. While there he has worked in parishes with RCIA and ministry to the sick. Last summer, along with Spurr, he was ordained to the Diaconate, a day that he calls one of the best of his life. “That was a great day for me,” he said, “because it was the confirmation of my vocation and most of my best

**For young men discerning their vocation, Father Acero offered this advice: “I would suggest that they trust God, even if they have fears, doubts, or difficulties.”**

friends were with me that day.”

Since then, on weekends he has worked at a parish near the seminary, serving as a Deacon by preaching at Mass.

Of his strengths as a priest, Father Acero said, “I seek to be humble, friendly, and very sensitive to the needs of the people I serve. I love the Church and strive to be aware of the challenges that the Church in North Carolina is facing now.”

One of the greatest challenges, he noted, is how to address and serve the rapidly growing Hispanic population, and he wants to find ways to build bridges between the Spanish- and English-speaking people of the Diocese. “We are one community,” he said.

“We all belong to one Church. I hope that I can be the link that can unite both communities.”

Immigration is another issue facing the Church and American society, he said.

For young men discerning their vocation, Father Acero offered this advice: “I would suggest that they trust God, even if they have fears, doubts, or difficulties. God is the one who calls and He knows them.”

► Father Acero will begin his priestly ministry as Parochial Vicar at Saint Thomas More Parish in Chapel Hill.

### At right:

► In preparation for Ordination, Deacons Spurr and Acero prostrate themselves before the altar during the Litany of the Saints.

► Father Romen A. Acero poses with his family after his ordination to the priesthood.





## Father Michael R. Spurr

**C**atholicism colored the fabric of Father Michael Spurr's childhood. For Spurr and his four brothers and sisters, family life in Clinton, Iowa, was punctuated by confession, holy days and Stations of the Cross during Lent.

Despite that formation, in college Spurr stepped away from his faith.

Fast-forward seven years through Spurr's active duty in the Navy and several years as a project manager at a telecommunications company. Restlessness gnawed at him. "I was doing fine by the world's standards," he said, "but at the end of the day I'd have this empty hollow feeling inside, and it was because I wasn't making room for God."

A move to Raleigh propelled Spurr to look up the closest Catholic parish and start attending. Almost instantly the emptiness departed. "Things blossomed and flourished from there," he said.

He met the pastor of another local church – St. Luke's in Raleigh – and became involved in ministry there. Later he would learn that the pastor, Father David Brockman, saw in him the potential for a vocation, and had placed Spurr's name among the prayer intentions at the parish.

While Spurr hadn't yet discerned his calling from God, he did know one thing: He wanted to help other young people appreciate the fullness of their faith. With this in mind, he became active in youth ministry at St. Luke's.

"After being there and realizing how satisfying and fulfilling it was to be going back to Mass again, I didn't want others to feel that emptiness," he said. "I figured that if I could keep one of these kids from feeling that emptiness, it'd be a measure of success."

The idea of a vocation to the priesthood continued to take root, especially as he sat on a committee evaluating other potential seminarians.

Over the next few years he made several trips to St. Mary's in Baltimore, but came away each time decided against the priesthood. However, the funeral of a young drowning victim made Spurr



take stock of his life, made him see that his life was not his own, but God's. He asked himself, "What am I being asked to do by the Lord, and how am I responding to it?" A downsizing at his company put him in a position where for the first time he could really hear the answer to that question.

Instead of scrambling for another job, Spurr took time to listen and to pray. He found a spiritual director and began attending daily Mass. Then one day, when he was reading a book at the kitchen table, "Everything went white."

The grace was so thick he could feel it, Spurr recalled. "God revealed in my heart, 'Be my priest.'" He responded, "You win, God. I'm not going to fight You anymore."

He picked up the phone the next day and called the Diocese. In 2002, he was accepted as a seminarian for the Diocese of Raleigh and entered Theological College in Washington, D.C.

It hasn't been a journey without trial. Spurr has endured the recent deaths of his father and younger sister, as well as the fatigue and weariness that go with sacrificing your own will to do God's work. What he has learned, though, is that "Grace sees you through it all. It's about being present in the moment and asking the Lord what He wants."

### At right:

► Father Michael R. Spurr poses with his family after his ordination to the priesthood.

**"After being there and realizing how satisfying and fulfilling it was to be going back to Mass again, I didn't want others to feel that emptiness."**

That commitment has taken him, during his seminary years, to soup kitchens and to the Missionaries of Charity, to an AIDS Hospice where he did everything from attending to those in discomfort to bathing those who couldn't bathe themselves. He has taught Confirmation classes and visited the sick at WakeMed in Raleigh, where he saw the beginning and end of life and everything in between.

It has been, and will be, he said, "a privilege to serve."

Along with the organizational and administrative skills he developed through his work in the secular world, Father Spurr hopes that his genial and outgoing nature will help in his ministry by drawing people to him. The self-proclaimed history buff also enjoys classical music and reading, exercise (especially golf), traveling and spending time outdoors.

"I want people to know that I am grateful beyond any expression for the love and prayer and support I have received over the past years," he said. "It is very humbling to receive all of that."

► Father Spurr will begin his priestly ministry as Parochial Vicar at Saint Michael the Archangel Parish in Cary.







Lauren Sullivan, Valedictorian and Christina Geradts, Salutatorian

# The Board of Trustees, Administrators CARDINAL GIBBONS SALUTE THE GRADUATES



*Cardinal Gibbons High School  
Diocese of Raleigh. We embrace  
of faith, service, and leadership.*

Hanna Maria Adams  
Heather Barbara Ahmed  
Meredith Leigh Ballard  
Sarah Louise Baric  
Christopher Chase Barry  
Jonathan Michael Bassi  
Marianne Corinne Beeler  
Heather Elizabeth Beichner  
Maryscott Margaret Bennett  
Alex Edward Beuris  
Cameron Anthony Blackman  
Christopher Michael Blake  
Caroline Marie Bobbie  
Christopher Alexander Boehm  
Elise Marie Bohmer  
Emily Elizabeth Mary Boland  
Kristina Meagan Bollinger  
Andrea Annalise Booth  
Arina Ann Borden  
Caroline Glenn Boyle  
Jacob Thomas Brennan  
Nicole Elizabeth Bria  
Rohan Noel Britto  
Courtney Alexandra Broemer  
James Wellington George Broemer  
Megan Allison Brown  
William Brinkman Brown  
Christina Elizabeth Buckley  
Jillian Grace Bulloch  
Christine Marie Burdett  
Gabrielle Alexandra Burn  
Elizabeth Blair Burnette  
Jonathan William Burns  
Kelly Ann Burt  
Maryellen Ashton Cain  
Brooks Trevor Callisher  
Zachary Lewis Calloway  
Katherine Marie Camp

Jared Daniel Canady  
Hugo Luis Canedo  
Andrew James Cannon  
Elissa Maria Catherine Cannon  
Daryl Bryanna Carducci  
Madeleine Kathleen Carney  
Bryan Carl Casciere  
Jessica Katherine Chorba  
Julie Beth Chytka  
Cassidy Ann Cloninger  
Clarke Taylor Cockman  
Madison Anna Louise Conklin  
Lauren Elizabeth Connors  
Thomas William Cooley  
Jacquelyn Leigh Coster  
Gregory Richard Cronheim  
Jaclyn Isabel Cross  
Christopher Michael Cutlip  
Adam Thomas D'Orazio  
Lorna Christian Dailey  
Caroline Barrett Daly  
Ryan Thomas Daly  
Andrew Steven Daniels  
Jessica Lawton Deacy  
Katelyn Alyssa Deacy  
Mason Andrew DeLaCourt  
Chelsea Logan Demarest  
Anne Marie Di Bartolo  
Jared Daniel Donabedian  
Kathleen Anne Donnelly  
Mark Stephen Dunshee  
Taylor Alicia Edmonds  
Mallory Frances Ehrenzeller  
Jenna Kathlene Ellison  
Jessica Margaret Elphick  
Andrew Milton Evans  
Christopher Scott Fedkiw  
Jennifer Karen Felder

Elena Margaret Fenu  
Michael Vincent Firrincieli  
Davis Carr Fisher  
Morgan Jeffrey Fleming  
Ryan Coley Fodell  
Katherine Lee Fontes  
Lauren Marie Fowler  
Steven Michael Franklin  
Chelsea Shannon Gailey  
Ian Charles Garbarine  
Justin Curtis Gardner  
Meghan Ellen Gast  
Rosalie Steel Gause  
Christina Clare Geradts  
David Lawrence Giannini  
Marie Elizabeth Gibbons  
Andrea Lee Gierlach  
Danielle Marie Glaser  
Kathleen Michelle Goff  
Wade Alexander Gordon  
Nicholas Merrill Graham  
Kathryn Addison Gray  
Anna Marie Gray  
Ashleigh Michele Green  
Brandon David Hall  
Alexander James Hamilton  
Alison Margaret Hammond  
Geoffrey Donald Hamrick  
Blake Christopher Harber  
Brianna Nicole Hartley  
Claire Maria Healey  
Alex Collin Hephner  
Kyle Matthew Herbert  
Abigail Rose Hicks  
Joseph Hamilton Hill  
Michael Thomas Holesh  
Amy Elizabeth Holsinger  
Davis Taylor Holt

Lindsay Rae Hooper  
Kyle Richard Horgan  
Margot Theresa Horgan  
Christopher Michael Hornung  
Christina Clare House  
Kaley Gaetana Huckabee  
Michael Christopher Hurley Jr.  
Nicholas John Icardi  
Alyssa Marie Irons  
Andrew Ryan Johnston  
Megan Elizabeth Jones  
Kathryn Elise Kabbes  
James Edward Kiernan  
Melissa Nicole Kizior  
Alex David Klavan  
Melanie Cristine Kobelinski  
Alexandra Ann Koch  
Stephenie Ann Kopil  
John Andrew Krasnow  
Victoria Jane Laborde  
Tucker Wilton Lane  
Ryan Timothy Lavelle  
Cameron McCormick Lavinder  
Jake Andrew Lawlis  
Jacqueline Keenan LeBoeuf  
William Joseph Lincourt  
Elyssa Caitlin Lischin  
Laura Elizabeth Lischwe  
Élan Elizabeth Lloyd  
Shane Regan Long  
Thomas Francis Looney II  
Daniel William Loos  
Noelle Elizabeth Lore  
Ariana Marie Siciliano Lucido  
Jordan Rebecca Lull  
Jennifer Marie Lutz  
Matthew Richard Lyles  
Nicholas Robert Macdonald  
William Henry MacNair  
Kristin Shehan Macsherry  
Ryan Michael Magee  
Alison Michele Malloy  
Alison Rae Marchi  
Lauren Elizabeth Marks  
Ashley Helene Martin  
Kristin Elizabeth Mastropolo  
Claire Louise Mathiot  
Elizabeth Seton Mazzocchi  
Lauren Elizabeth McAnallen  
Colin Paul McCarty  
Brenna Caitlin McClellan  
Kyle Jeffrey McDermott  
Colleen Mary McDonald  
Kathryn Maeve McGarry  
Lindsay Elizabeth McIntyre

Kelley Alycia McLaughlin  
Courtney Elise Merritt  
Jesse Danforth Merritt  
Morgan Elizabeth Metzger  
Jeffrey David Miles  
Nicolas Anthony Miller  
Joseph Cody Mistic  
William Mark Mistrot  
David Ryan Mondragón  
Carey Thomas Morgan  
Mark Patterson Morris  
Andrew Charles Mueller  
Jillian Faith Mueller  
Jayme Carol Mullins  
Siobhan Mary Munroe  
Kara Marie Murphy  
Diana Marie Nassar  
Nathan Scott Nelli  
Christopher Michael Nelson  
Jeremy Asher Nelson  
Margaret Sullivan Niemann  
Rachel Laura Norman  
Lauren Ali Norris  
Rory Patrick O'Brien  
Michael Alexander O'Neill  
Jessica Elizabeth Palinski  
Stephanie Paige Parente  
Kevin Robert Parks  
Alexandra de Lisle Peck  
Jacob Robert Pecot  
Lauren Elizabeth Phelps  
Andrew Mark Phifer  
Mark Gerard Piegore  
Justin Casey Platis  
Vincent Frank Pompliano  
Ryan Joseph Rabitz  
Tara Elizabeth Rajani  
Thais Beatriz Ramirez  
Kaitlin Sarah Redmond  
Merrick Joseph Reiland  
Nancy Theresa Reilly  
John Bartholomew Roberti  
Nicholas Anthony Rodriguez  
Breanne Marie Roess  
Natalie Rojano  
William Joseph Rollinson  
Bridget Theresa Ryan  
Lauren Patricia Saccardo  
Andrew John Sartori  
Phillip Paul Satterwhite  
Christine Mary Scardino  
Richard Joseph Schuman  
Emily Gibson Seberger  
Skyler William Semmes

Jordan Forrest Sent  
Matthew David Sha  
Melissa Jane Shafe  
Joseph Robert Shin  
Kari Ann Shulby  
Ana Alicia Silva  
Jessica Rose Simon  
Lisa Marianne Skiv  
Lindsey Marie Slau  
Amy Noel Smith  
Paige Charlotte Sm  
Michael Douglas Sn

## Thank You

TO OUR PARISHES FOR SUPPORTING THE CLASS OF 2008

Blessed Sacrament	1	St. Francis of Assisi	44
Holy Cross	1	St. Joseph	1
Immaculate Conception	7	St. Luke the Evangelist	2
Our Lady of Lourdes	21	St. Mary Magdalene	20
Sacred Heart Cathedral	15	St. Mary, Mother of the Church	1
St. Andrew the Apostle	24	St. Matthews	2
St. Ann	1	St. Michael the Archangel	53
St. Bernadette	7	St. Raphael the Archangel	16
St. Catherine of Siena	1	St. Thomas More	9



The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh  
John H. Ruocchio, '83 - Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Dr. Michael J. Fedewa - Superintendent of Catholic  
Formation & Education  
Jason D. Curtis - Principal

*a college preparatory school of the Roman Catholic  
bre the mission of Jesus Christ: to form men and women  
shin church and community.*

Lauren Marie Sullivan  
Stephen Michael Sutton  
Matthew Paul Swinarski  
Robert Jeffery Sztukowski  
Martha Cates Taylor  
Jason Tyler Thomas  
Thomas Joseph Toscano  
John Michael Tramontin  
Paulina Christy Tran  
John Garrison Tremont  
Johnathan Scott Tucker  
Matthew Alan Tucker

Mark Joseph Turak  
Adriana Elizabeth Turner  
Kayla Marie Turner  
Logan Claire Tyler  
Bridget Christine Uniacke  
Leah Michele Vaughn  
Alyssa Marie Vega  
April Marie Vinzani  
Daniel Gene Vivencio  
Nicholas Raymond Vrscek  
Timothy Matthew Waer  
Amanda Riley Wagner

Jennifer Arlene Walsh  
Lauren Michelle Wasilick  
Anne Elizabeth Welch  
Amanda Jane Wells  
Kyle John Whelan  
Mary Scott Whiteley  
Christopher Herbert Williams  
Allison Browning Wilson  
Anne Marie Wilson  
Andrew John Wittman  
Colleen Nicole Young



Reverend Scott E. McCue, Assistant Principal for Spiritual Life,  
The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, and Jason D.  
Curtis, Principal



### MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2008 HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO THE FOLLOWING COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

American Musical & Dramatic Academy	Embry-Riddle	Old Dominion University	University of Connecticut
American University	Florida Atlantic University	Peace College	University of Dallas
Appalachian State	Fordham University	Penn State University	University of Dayton
Arcadia University	George Mason University	Pfeiffer University	University of Georgia
Auburn University	George Washington University	Purdue University	University of Kentucky
Ball State University	Georgetown University	Queens University	University of Maine
Barton College	Georgia Tech.	Queens University in Canada	University of Maryland
Beaufort Community College	Gonzaga University	Radford University	University of Massachusetts-Amherst
Belmont Abbey	Guilford College	Randolph-Macon College	University of Miami
Boston College	Guilford Tech.	Roanoke College	University of Michigan
Brevard College	Hawaiian Pacific University	Salisbury University	University of Minnesota
Brown University	High Point University	Salve Regina University	University of Mississippi
Bucknell University	Holy Cross College	Savannah College - Art/Design	University of Nebraska
Campbell University	Indiana University	School of the Arts Inst./Chicago	University of Notre Dame
Cape Fear CC	James Madison University	Spring Hill College	University of Oklahoma
Carnegie Mellon	John Carroll University	St. Bonaventure University	University of Pittsburgh
Centre College	Johnston Community College	St. John's University	University of Rhode Island
Charleston Southern University	Kansas State University	St. Joseph's University	University of Richmond
Chowan University	Kings College	St. Olaf College	University of South Carolina
Christendom College	Lenoir Rhyne College	Syracuse University	University of Tennessee
Clemson University	Louisburg College	Texas A&M University	University of Texas, Austin
Coastal Carolina University	Louisiana State University	The Catholic University of America	US Military Academy
College of Charleston	Loyola of Chicago	The Citadel	Vanderbilt University
College of the Holy Cross	Lynchburg College	The Naval Academy	Villanova University
College of Wooster	Marquette University	Tulane University	Virginia Commonwealth University
Colorado State University	Marymount Manhattan College	Tusculum College	Virginia Tech.
Colorado University/Boulder	Marymount University	UCLA	Wake Forest University
Columbia University	Meredith College	UNC-Asheville	Wake Tech. CC
David Lipscomb University	Miami Dade College	UNC-Chapel Hill	Washington & Lee University
Dickinson College	Miami University/Ohio	UNC-Charlotte	West Virginia University
Dominican College	Morehouse University	UNC-Greensboro	Western Carolina University
Drexel University	Mt. Olive College	UNC-Pembroke	Western New England
Duke University	North Carolina State University	UNC-Wilmington	William & Mary
Duquesne University	NCSU/School of Art/Design	University of Alabama	Wingate University
East Carolina University	New York University	University of Arizona	Xavier University
Elizabethtown College	Newberry College	University of Central Florida	
Elon University	Ohio State University	University of Colorado	





Dos hombres,  
dos países,  
dos caminos  
con el mismo fin

## Conozca a los nuevos sacerdotes de la Diócesis de Raleigh

**A** primera vista, los Padres Michael Spurr y Romen Acero no tienen mucho en común; uno proviene de la región central del país, y el otro de Bogotá, Colombia. Aunque hablen diferentes idiomas y tengan culturas diferentes, la Iglesia Católica mantiene su identidad a pesar de las diferencias geográficas y de lenguaje. A partir del 7 de junio, estos dos hombres recibirán algo extraordinario y compartirán un elemento en común, el Sacramento del Orden Sacerdotal.

### El Padre Romen Acero

El Padre Romen Alfredo Acero Molina sueña con ser como el párroco de su comunidad cuando era niño —El párroco y las monjas jugaron un papel muy importante en mi proceso de discernimiento. La manera en que se desempeñaron en el ministerio de mi parroquia dejó una huella en mi vida religiosa, pero fue la gracia de Dios y más la ayuda de mi párroco y de las monjas por tan maravilloso ejemplo de guiarme con amor por el camino de la Iglesia. Sus padres también fueron pieza clave en su formación a la

vocación del sacerdocio. —Mi madre fue una gran influencia para mí porque me enseñó a ser un buen católico. —Agregó —Mis padres fueron maravillosos y nos enseñaron a cuidar de nuestro prójimo.

Acero tiene tres hermanos menores de los cuales todavía viven en Bogotá, al igual que su madre y su padre, falleció hace nueve años. Desde muy joven, estuvo siempre muy dispuesto con los asuntos de la parroquia, participó en el grupo juvenil y sirvió como catequista; dichas actividades lo ayudaron a mantener su fe cuando muchos a su alrededor carecían de ésta. La primera vez que

escuchó el llamado de Dios, tenía tan solo 14 años y al pasar de los años, se mantuvo muy interesado en los asuntos de la Iglesia y después del bachillerato, atendió el seminario en Bogotá por dos años y luego enseñó filosofía en una escuela Católica.

—Todas esas experiencias me ayudaron a descubrir que Dios me llama a servir en la Iglesia siendo sacerdote. —comenta.

Sin embargo, no fue hasta años después que un amigo, el Padre Fernando Torres, le propuso la idea de ser sacerdote en los Estados Unidos en la Diócesis de Raleigh y Acero realizó una serie de entrevistas con el Padre Torres, el Vicario Diocesano del Ministerio Hispano y el Monseñor Michael Clay, director diocesano de vocaciones en aquel entonces.

En el 2002, el Padre Acero ingresó en el Seminario de St. Mary en Baltimore, Maryland, donde trabajó en parroquias con el programa RICA y el ministerio de los enfermos. El verano pasado, al igual que Spurr, fue ordenado al diaconato, a lo que él se refiere como uno de los mejores días de su vida —Fue el mejor día de mi vida





**El Padre Romen Acero**



**El Padre Michael Spurr**

—comentó —porque fue la confirmación de mi vocación y mis mejores amigos compartieron ese momento conmigo. Desde aquel entonces, trabajó los fines de semana en una parroquia cerca del seminario como diácono durante la Misa.

Entre sus facultades como sacerdote comenta — soy humilde, amigable y muy sensible con respecto a las necesidades de la gente, amo a la Iglesia y estoy conciente de los desafíos que enfrenta la Iglesia en Carolina del Norte. Uno de los grandes retos que él considera enfrenta la iglesia en este Estado es como se dirige a la creciente población Hispana y le gustaría conseguir una forma de unificar a ambas comunidades en la Diócesis —Somos una sola comunidad —comenta —Todos pertenecemos a una misma Iglesia y espero que yo pueda servir de enlace para unir a ambas comunidades. —Otro asunto que enfrenta la Iglesia y la sociedad Norteamericana es la Inmigración.

Para los jóvenes que están en el proceso de discernimiento, el Padre Acero les sugiere: —Les sugiero que confíen en Dios, aunque tengan miedo, dudas o dificultades, Dios realiza el llamado y Él los conoce.

► **El Padre Acero comenzó su ministerio como Vicario Parroquial de la comunidad de Saint Thomas More en Chapel Hill.**

### **El Padre Michael Spurr**

El catolicismo comenzó desde la infancia del Padre Michael Spurr y sus hermanos en Clinton Iowa por la confesión, los días santos y el Viacrucis durante la Semana Santa. A pesar de su formación católica, durante sus años universitarios, Spurr se alejó de su fe y durante siete años de su vida activa en la Naval y otros más como líder de proyecto de una compañía de telecomunicaciones, esa formación comenzó a deteriorarse —Estaba muy bien a los ojos del mundo, pero al final del día sentía ese vacío por dentro porque no le daba lugar a Dios.

Cuando Spurr se mudó a Raleigh, se propuso a buscar la Iglesia Católica más cercana y casi al instante, el vacío desapareció —Todo floreció desde aquel entonces —comentó. Poco después conoció al párroco de otra iglesia cercana (St. Luke) en Raleigh y al tiempo se cambió de parroquia. El Padre David Brockman percibió en él un gran potencial para la vocación y agregó su nombre a la lista de oración de su parroquia. Durante el proceso de discernimiento del llamado de Dios, Spurr estaba seguro de algo, estaba dispuesto a ayudar a los jóvenes a apreciar la fe, es entonces cuando se dedica activamente a trabajar en la pastoral juvenil de St. Luke. —Al darme cuenta de la satisfacción que sentí al regresar a la Misa, pensé que nadie debería sentir ese vacío y si pudiera ayudar a por lo menos

uno de estos muchachos a no sentir ese vacío, sería todo un éxito. —comentó.

La idea de la vocación al sacerdocio continuó, incluso cuando evaluaba a otros posibles seminaristas. Luego realizó varios viajes a St. Mary en Baltimore, pero no se terminaba de convencer del todo por el sacerdocio. No obstante, en el funeral de un joven muchacho, le hizo darse cuenta que su vida le pertenecía a Dios y preguntó: ¿Qué quieres de mí Señor y cómo puedo responder a ese llamado? La reducción de personal en su compañía le permitió por primera vez responder a esa pregunta inicial y en vez de buscar otro trabajo, Spurr se dedicó a la oración; consiguió un consejero espiritual y asistió a Misa a diario. Un día, mientras leía un libro en la mesa de la cocina —todo se tornó blanco.

La gracia era tan espesa que podía sentirla. —Dios apareció en mi corazón y dijo “Se mí sacerdote” a la que respondí — ¡Tú ganas! No pienso pelear mas contra tu voluntad. Al día siguiente llamó a la Diócesis y en el 2002, ingresó en el Theological College de Washington DC.

Para él no ha sido un viaje sin pruebas difíciles; puesto que recientemente sufrió el fallecimiento de su padre y de su hermana menor, al igual que la fatiga y el cansancio que conlleva sacrificar su propia voluntad por el trabajo de Dios. Ese ímpetu lo utilizó para ayudar en la cocina de misiones caritativas y a enfermos con SIDA. Además, enseña clases de confirmación y visita a los enfermos de WakeMed en Raleigh. —Ha sido y seguirá siendo un privilegio servir —comenta.

En conjunto con su experiencia en el mundo laboral, el Padre Spurr espera que su extrovertida personalidad atraiga a muchas más personas. En sus tiempos libres, disfruta de una buena lectura, de la música clásica, de hacer ejercicios (en especial del Golf), viajar y disfrutar de actividades al aire libre. —Quiero que el pueblo sepa que estoy muy agradecido por todo su amor, apoyo y oración que he recibido en los últimos años. Es un símbolo de humildad.

► **El Padre Spurr comenzó su ministerio como Vicario Parroquial de la comunidad de Saint Michael the Archangel en Cary.**



# Querido lector de NCC

Por: Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

**Querido lector:** ¿Alguna vez ha escuchado el dicho “fuego en la clínica” cuando se refieren a la destrucción de embriones? ¿Cuál es su opinión?

**S**i. El asunto comienza así: Supongamos que se incendia una clínica para la fertilidad. Usted es el único adulto presente, hay un bebé recién nacido y 5000 embriones congelados en un tanque de nitrógeno líquido. Usted sólo puede salvar a uno de todos ellos antes de que el fuego consuma el edificio. ¿A quién elegiría usted?

De acuerdo con este argumento, sólo el extremista más apasionado y radical elegiría el contenedor con los embriones en lugar del bebé recién nacido. Y con esto parece demostrarse lo que los defensores de la experimentación con células madre embrionarias han estado diciendo todo el tiempo, esto es, que todos hacemos una distinción moral entre embriones y niños, y que matar embriones no puede estar en el mismo nivel moral que matar niños. La destrucción de embriones, ellos concluyen, no plantea ningún problema moral real si estos son destruidos durante la experimentación para beneficio de otros.

Es claro, sin embargo, que este argumento no logra justificar lo que propone.

Si cambiamos ligeramente la historia veremos dónde está la falla. Imaginemos a tres hermosas hermanitas recién nacidas durmiendo juntas en una cama de hospital. En otra cama al lado de las bebés, está la madre, inconsciente y recuperándose de la cirugía. El papá de esas niñas se encuentra en una sala de espera al fondo del pasillo y es la única persona presente en el área cuando, repentinamente, se origina un gran incendio. Él corre por el pasillo para salvar a su familia pero sólo podrá arrastrar una sola cama para sacarla del cuarto antes de que el fuego haga imposible rescatar a nadie más. Si elige rescatar a su esposa en lugar de sus hijas, ¿significa eso que hace una distinción moral entre su esposa y sus hijas? ¿Significa, de alguna manera, que él aceptaría que científicos investigadores experimenten con las bebés o que las sacrifiquen en aras de la ciencia? Es claro que no —de su acción nunca se podría llegar a tales conclusiones. El elegir salvar a su esposa no indica que concede a sus tres hijas menos valor que a su esposa, o que las ve como “menos humanas” que ella. Indica, más bien, que debido a que él ha convivido mucho con ella a través de los años, está emocionalmente más apegado a ella, que reconoció su voz, y que

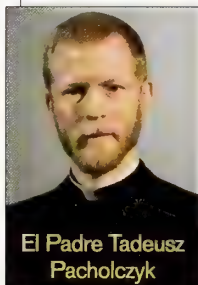
en un nivel emocional inmediato él respondió a esa continua amistad con ella. Dicha decisión no dice nada, ni siquiera al propio padre, de qué tan valiosas en realidad son para él sus hijas. Lo mismo sucede respecto a los embriones que pudieran quedarse atrás en el caso del congelador: salvar al recién nacido no dice nada en relación al valor y la dignidad intrínsecos del embrión ya que es probable que el rescatador esté reaccionando de forma inmediata a lo que le es más familiar, es decir, al bebé recién nacido.

Como sacerdote y bioeticista, frecuentemente se me hace la difícil pregunta de qué deben hacer los padres con sus embriones “sobrantes” que resultan de la fertilización in vitro. En esas conversaciones es casi palpable la angustia y la culpa de los padres en su esfuerzo por encontrar una forma de liberar a sus hijos atrapados en esos congelados orfanatos. Después de haber conocido personalmente a muchos padres y madres en esa situación, estoy convencido de que si tuvieran que “enfrentarse al fuego”, algunos de ellos bien podrían elegir a sus embriones en lugar del recién nacido de otros padres. Los lazos familiares son muy poderosos, y he conversado con hombres que han manifestado que si tuvieran que elegir entre sus tres hijas o su esposa, ellos permanecerían en la clínica tratando de salvar a toda la familia, aún y cuando esto significase morir en las llamas.

El caso hipotético del incendio en la clínica, donde se tiene que tomar una decisión instantánea, pierde de vista la cuestión esencial de cuáles son nuestras obligaciones morales reales hacia el embrión humano. Lo que hace un caso así es, realmente, enfrentarnos

a una priorización de emergencia en una situación desesperada, artificial y poco probable, lo cual nunca será una base legítima para determinar o deducir principios morales. En un momento de temor o dificultad de esa magnitud lo que se necesita es una decisión inmediata, no un calmado razonamiento basado en principios morales. Cuando tenemos que tomar una decisión tan difícil como la anterior es posible que sintamos instintivamente que el bebé recién nacido ya está en camino de ser un miembro adulto de la sociedad. El salvar al recién nacido contribuye, por lo tanto, a un resultado razonablemente cierto en el futuro —mientras que salvar a los embriones no ofrece esa certeza práctica respecto a su futuro o a su destino final. Algunos de los embriones de ese contenedor tal vez lleguen a ser implantados en la matriz de su madre, pero aún así pueden morir o ser sometidos a una “reducción artificial”; algunos otros tal vez sean destruidos

**Como sacerdote y bioeticista, frecuentemente se me hace la difícil pregunta de qué deben hacer los padres con sus embriones “sobrantes” que resultan de la fertilización in vitro.**



El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

— El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk hizo su doctorado en neurociencias en la Universidad de Yale y su trabajo post-doctoral en la Universidad de Harvard. Es Sacerdote para la Diócesis de Fall River, MA, y se desempeña como Director de Educación en el Centro Nacional Católico de Bioética en Philadelphia. The National Catholic Bioethics Center: [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)



si los encargados de la clínica los consideran "inadecuados"; otros tal vez sean cedidos a investigadores para experimentos que implican la destrucción de embriones; muchos tal vez permanecerán en el profundo congelamiento por tiempo indefinido. Si yo eligiera salvar del fuego al recién nacido, esa acción no indicaría nada significativo respecto a lo que pienso del valor moral de los embriones humanos atrapados en el congelador. Indicaría, más bien, el juicio instantáneo que hago en una situación de crisis o de emergencia y basado en resultados previsibles.

Estos escenarios hipotéticos nos recuerdan que el tomar decisiones morales complejas bajo presión no es cosa fácil, y que dependerá, necesariamente, de muchos factores —las circunstancias particulares, las relaciones familiares, los resultados probables que se prevén, así como los aspectos emocionales del caso. También nos recuerdan que el proceso para llegar a los juicios éticos correctos no depende, en última instancia, de imaginarnos escenarios exasperantes y poco realistas para justificar determinadas conclusiones. El caso imaginario del incendio en la clínica si nos hace ver, sin embargo, que no estamos familiarizados con los embriones y por lo tanto es probable que reaccionemos hacia ellos de una forma diferente a como lo hacemos hacia un bebé completamente formado. Pero también debe servirnos para recordar cómo no debemos familiarizarnos con ellos, es decir, que para empezar, los embriones no se supone que deban estar en congeladores, sino únicamente en la seguridad del vientre materno. El clásico ejemplo hipotético del incendio en la clínica al que se recurre como argumento pierde de vista la cuestión central del valor inestimable de cada uno de esos embriones humanos y nos induce, con una maniobra distractora, a dar una respuesta emocional basada en lo que en un momento de crisis nos es más familiar.

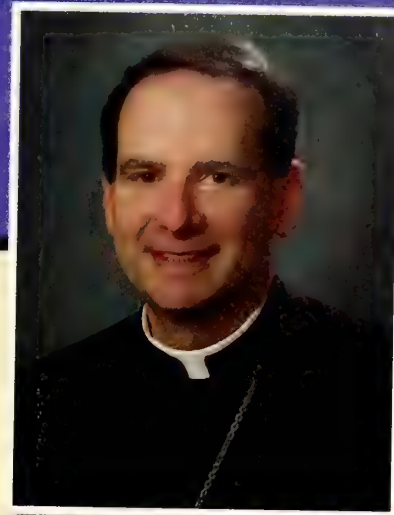
En nuestro aquí y ahora, la clínica no se está quemando y tampoco estamos en la situación de tomar una decisión salomónica entre salvar humanos embrionarios o humanos de más edad. Lo que tenemos que hacer, más bien, es esforzarnos por construir una sociedad que se preocupe igualmente tanto por unos como por otros y que los proteja a ambos por igual.

Traducción: María Elena Rodríguez

## “resaltar Su amor y hacer que brille para los demás”

**N**uestra Diócesis y la Iglesia fueron bendecidas el 7 de junio cuando a través de la Imposición de Manos y la Oración, ordenamos a dos nuevos sacerdotes de la Diócesis de Raleigh: el Reverendo Romen Acero y Michael Supr.

Antes de la ordenación, un amigo vio la entrevista realizada a estos dos hombres en la página diocesana (la cual invito a todos a ver) y después de escuchar las historias personales y las perspectivas espirituales, mi amigo me dijo —Estos hombres son extraordinarios. Debes estar muy orgulloso. Ciertamente, me siento muy orgulloso de estos nuevos sacerdotes al igual de nuestros maravillosos seminaristas. Los Padres Acero y Spurr serán caritativos, espirituales y muy entusiastas, así que me sumo a todos los deseos de prosperidad en su primera y futuras tareas como sacerdotes. Además, expreso mis más sinceras felicitaciones y bendiciones al Padre Gregory Plow, Tercera Orden Franciscana Regular o Terciarios Regulares (T.O.R) de nuestra Diócesis, al haber sido ordenado Sacerdote Franciscano el 24 de mayo del 2008.



**Muchos de los sacerdotes de la Diócesis concelebraron la Misa de Ordenación y nuestros nuevos sacerdotes han sido bendecidos al compartir esta fraternidad única como lo es el sacerdocio.** Los nuevos ordenados contarán con mucho apoyo y serán un gran ejemplo, de esta manera expreso mi gratitud a todos los sacerdotes por prestar tan generoso servicio en nuestra Diócesis y en toda la Iglesia. Además, a la Misa de Ordenación asistieron diáconos, religiosos, seminaristas, familiares y amigos de los nuevos ordenados, jóvenes, adultos y laicos de toda la Diócesis. La Misa me brindó la oportunidad de agradecerle a todos ellos al igual que a todos mis hermanos y hermanas en Cristo por las innumerables demostraciones de amor y respecto hacia los nuevos ordenados al sacerdocio. Estoy muy agradecido por aquellos que oran a diario por nuestros sacerdotes y por nuestros seminaristas por nombre, al igual que orar para que la Diócesis de Raleigh sea bendecida con más sacerdotes más un incremento a la vocación de la vida consagrada. Estoy seguro que el Señor escuchará nuestras oraciones y nos colmará de bendiciones.

**El Padre Acero y el Padre Spurr iniciarán su servicio con incalculables responsabilidades y obligaciones.** Sin embargo, en mi homilía, les recordé las palabras del Papa Benedicto XVI en su reciente visita pastoral a los Estados Unidos. Él nos animó a recordar lo que realmente importa ante el Señor “resaltar Su amor y hacer que brille para los demás.” Ante todo, los sacerdotes deben

dedicarse a la oración, la cual florece a diario en la relación con el Señor, para así recibir la fortaleza y servir como poderoso instrumento de sanación y compasión durante su servicio durante la Misa diaria. El mensaje más importante del Santo Padre hacia todos es el de esforzarnos por vivir apegados a la vocación que el Señor nos ha encomendado. En medio de tantas demandas y responsabilidades que a menudo nos consumen, debemos recordar en especial antes de comenzar y terminar el día, de conseguir un momento de quietud para orar y rendirle homenaje al Señor.

**En nuestra oración, no solo solicitamos la ayuda de Dios, también escuchamos el susurro de su voz que nos guía.** Este verano y siempre, continúen la tarea de resaltar el amor que nos brinda el Señor en silencio a través de su participación en la Misa semanal, para que así se alimenten con Sus palabras y en la Eucaristía. Además, renueven el compromiso de hacer relucir Su amor hacia los demás. Por favor, sean considerados con los miembros de su familia o todo aquel a su alrededor que requiera de su tiempo, atención, bondad, generosidad, compasión y necesite ver la Luz de Cristo.

Al concluir mi homilía de la Misa de Ordenación, confíe la protección de nuestra Madre María a los nuevos sacerdotes y sus ministerios, a través de su intersección y con la gracia de Su Hijo, nuestros nuevos sacerdotes y cada uno de nosotros renueve cada día la promesa de **resaltar Su amor y hacer que brille para los demás!**

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh



# life's ordinary miracles

where to find God in everyday experiences

**T**he other Sunday, I baptized a little girl who was just three days old.

As I held her in my arms, she fell asleep. Wow! I felt like melting. As I looked at this precious little treasure, I knew I was looking at a deep mystery – the image of God in a baby girl's sleeping face.

(Gen 1:27) The baby's parents were watching their little one with love and awe in their eyes. Mom said, "She is a miracle." God had sent this child to them. They were right.

Miracles in the strictest sense go beyond the laws of nature and have God as their author. They help us see God. Yet our faith can allow us to see God in the ordinary, as well as in the extraordinary.

I know many people have experienced God in the beauty of a sunset, the passing fragrance of flowers or the incredible animals God has made. How about just looking up into the stars at night – what a thing to ponder! Scripture says that all of creation points to Jesus, who is its center. "He is the firstborn of all creation. For in him were created all things in heaven and on earth ... all things were created through him and for him." (Col 1:15-16)

The ordinary world around us is not so ordinary. For our spiritual fitness this month, let's consider some simple miracles in the obvious and ordinary. These can help us get more in touch with God.

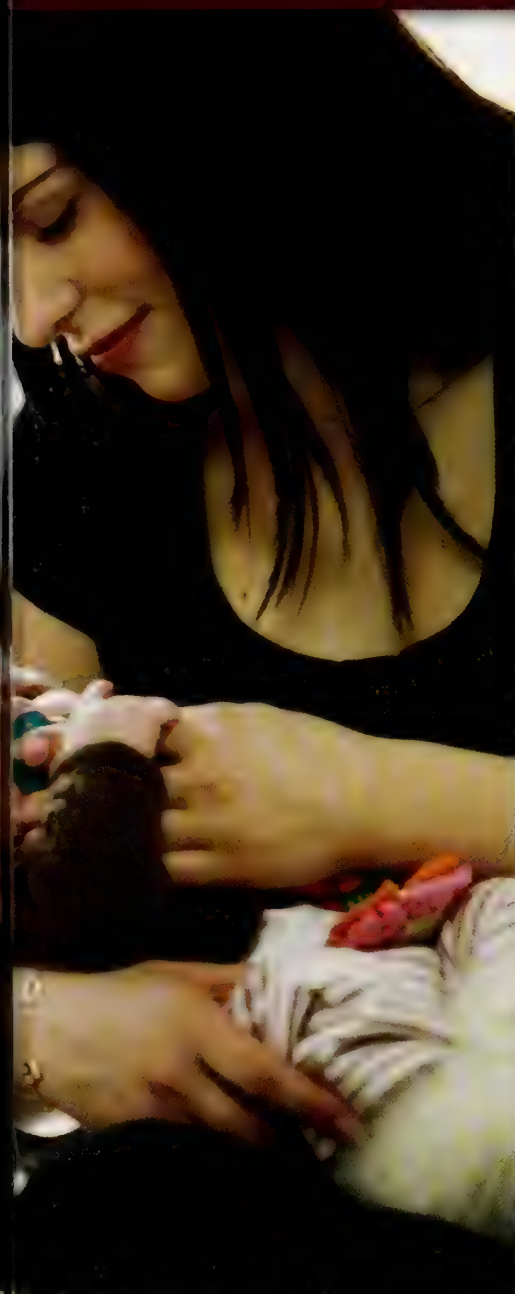


## Miracle of being

**I exist. What may seem to be the most simple and obvious condition we experience – our existence – is itself a first encounter with a miracle from God.** It is a profound experience to realize that "I have been created by God." Many holy men and women write about an "I am" experience where God gives them a profound awareness of their existence in relation to God's own. Usually, when that happens, their "I am" experience is also an "I am – not" experience in relationship to God. We are created and can say "I am" only because we have come

from the great "I AM." (Exod 3:14) To begin this meditation, find a quiet place where you can pray and be with the Lord. Pray Psalm 139. Ask the Lord to help guide your thoughts. Reflect on your life. God was with you every step. What is your earliest memory? Reflect on the phrase, "You knit me in my mother's womb." Now think about the time you did **not** exist. One year before your birth you were **not**. God knew you before you were in the womb. God willed you to be. God spoke your name and called you into being. You can say, "I am." You will exist forever. God loved you in creating you and loves you in willing you to be. Ponder the mystery.





received them. Pictures can help here. God chose to communicate himself to us in the simple elements of water, oil, bread and wine and light. These are sacred signs that we see, hear, touch, smell and taste. How ordinary all these things seem to be, but hidden in them all is God who continues to draw us to Himself. Now, as you are praying, focus again on each of your senses and pray:

*I thank you, Lord, for my ears that I may hear your Word; my eyes that I may see your face; my hands that I may serve others with your loving touch; my taste that I can feast on your sacred words and the gift to smell Your fragrance in the people I meet. Amen.*

Our senses are amazing. They connect us to our world and to God. They are meant to help us love God more. However, remember one thing in this meditation: Our senses can deceive us. Sometimes people get stuck along their spiritual way, because they get fixated or dazzled by something that wows the senses. God is beyond the senses. God, as we grow in our union with Him, will purify us from all of our false gods and attachments gained through the senses. St. John of the Cross calls this the "dark night of the senses."

### **Miracle of God in the chaos of life**

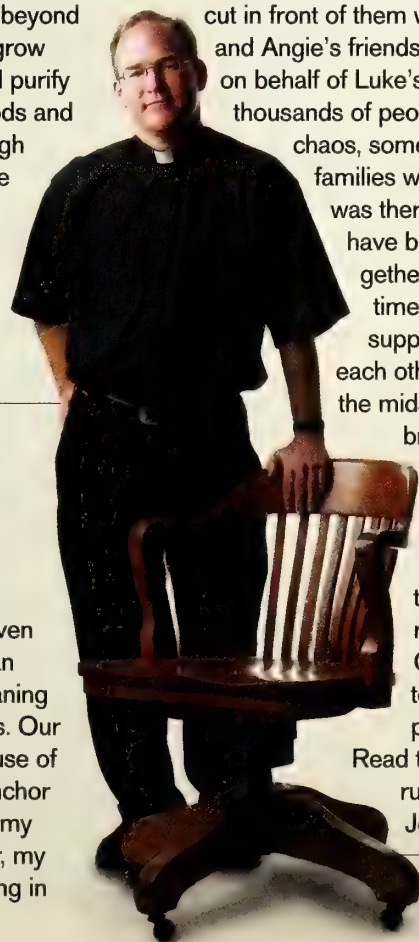
**I can see beyond the senses, and even past the events and circumstances of my life, and know there is more.** There is purpose and meaning in my life, even if it is chaotic. Miracles can happen in the chaos. Meaning can come out of madness. Our lives have meaning because of Jesus Christ. He is my anchor in turbulent waters. He is my rock of refuge, my shelter, my deliverer. He is light shining in

the darkness. He is my hope.

A few months back, I was involved with a family who had lost their daughter, Angie, to the tsunami. In the face of such a terrible loss, many wondered, "Where are you, God?" Many struggled with hope. Angela's family shared with me that, in their search for Angie, they experienced God's special help and Providence in many ways. Angie had been with her boyfriend, Luke, when the tsunami hit. They and thousands of others on the beach were killed by the wave. Families and friends tried desperately to find whatever information they could about their loved ones. Many computers were set up to help families identify the victims. Angie's family was just about ready to take their turn on one when another person cut in front of them. They knew they shared the same urgency to get whatever information they could, so they simply asked if they could watch over the person's shoulder as the images of the victims came across the screen. As they watched, they soon realized they were looking for the same people! The person who had cut in front of them was one of Luke and Angie's friends, and was there on behalf of Luke's family. Of all the thousands of people there in the chaos, somehow these two families were united. God was there. Only God could have brought them together in such a critical time so that they could support and comfort each other. God is in the midst of life's chaos,

bringing us hope and love. In this meditation, think about the times in your life when things were dark; remember how God helped you to have hope. Experience his love.

Read the story of Lazarus in the Gospel of John, chapter 11.



— Fr. Bill Ashbaugh

### **Miracle of sense**

**How incredible it is to see, to hear, to touch, to smell, to taste.**

Our senses bring us into relationship with the world around us and open the door for us to go beyond our senses to God. Some of you may have lost one of the senses. Often those who have lost some sense have much to teach us all about gratitude. To begin this meditation, go outside and focus on each sense for two or more minutes. What do you see, hear, taste, smell and touch? Ponder how amazing it all is. Spend time in thanksgiving. In the second meditation, think about the sacraments, beginning with baptism. Think about when you



## Sarah Almon Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

►► On June 4, at a Mass closing the 2007-2008 school year at Our Lady of Lourdes School in Raleigh, Sarah Almon was presented with the Msgr. Gerald L. Lewis Lifetime Achievement Award for her 37 years of dedicated and excellent teaching at Lourdes. The Lewis Award for Excellence in Teaching has been awarded annually for 16 years. In that time, the Lifetime Achievement Award, which honors educators who have made a significant commitment and contribution to the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Raleigh over an extended period of time, has been bestowed on just four recipients.

In his remarks at the presentation, Msgr. Lewis characterized Almon as "a student even as she teaches. An avid reader, she also likes to write. She is a mathematician of excellence, but more than all of this, she loves her students." He noted that, over the years, Almon has often been a counselor to former students. An eighth-grade home room teacher, Almon is also the girls' basketball coach at Lourdes. With the eighth grade, she started the Passion play that the school performs each Lent. She is a special minister of the Eucharist at the school and a reader at Mass in her parish, St. Mary in Garner.

"Miss Almon has given her life to educating and loving all the children entrusted to her," Msgr. Lewis concluded. "She has given her whole self to this ministry."

The award came with a \$1,500 check, which was presented to Almon by Dr. Michael J. Fedewa, Diocesan Superintendent of Catholic Formation and Education.

## Diocesan Faithful Assist Latin American Church

►► In a special collection held in parishes in May, faithful in the Diocese of Raleigh contributed \$85,137 to the Church in Latin America.



## Cardinal Gibbons High School Graduates 270

►► On Friday, May 23, the 270 members of Cardinal Gibbons High School's Class of 2008 attended a



baccalaureate liturgy celebrated by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, at St. Francis of Assisi Church.

In his homily, Bishop Burbidge recalled the recent diocesan pilgrimage, and reminded the graduates that life on earth is merely a journey, with eternal life with God as its destination. "In the midst of increasing responsibilities and new challenges," the Bishop told the graduates, "nothing can be more important than to grow daily in your love for the Lord. Cardinal Gibbons High School exists primarily to assist you in that process and I am proud of how this school embraces that mission."

On Sunday, May 26, the Cardinal Gibbons seniors received their diplomas in a ceremony at Raleigh's Meymandi Hall.

## Sister Mary Ellen Kilday, S.P., 1913-2008

►► Sister of Providence Mary Ellen Kilday, an education consultant who served the Diocese of Raleigh from 1974-1993, died May 17 in St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind.



Sister Kilday earned degrees in biology, zoology and education administration, and, as a member of the RTP management consulting firm Diener and Associates she worked with a variety of educators and institutions, including the Diocese of Raleigh, providing insights on curriculum development, research and planning. Sister Kilday was a strong advocate of hands-on education; as a consultant to the Diocese, she developed a science curriculum for all grades, called "creaction," which is still in use today. At one point, she served as interim Diocesan Superintendent of Schools. Sister Kilday was also an active member of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Cary, where she was an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion and sang in the choir.

## Bishop Blesses Eagle Scout Project in Maple

►► On May 20, on a pastoral visit to St. Katharine Drexel Church in Maple, NC, Bishop Michael Burbidge blessed a rosary prayer garden which was the project of Eagle Scout Kyle Waldrop, a member of St. Katherine's Troop 127. Kyle, who constructed the project with the help of fellow scout Brad Mattox, has been a scout since the first grade when he started at Annunciation Catholic School in Havelock, NC as a member of Pack 551. In the photo, l-r, Father Jim Buchholz, supervising pastor of St. Katherine; life scout Brad Mattox; Troop 127 scout master Rusty Waldrop Kyle's father; Kyle Waldrop.





### Miracle League Puts Opportunity, Service in Play

►► The Franciscan School's baseball team lent a hand to the Raleigh Miracle League Saturday, May 10. As part of its two-season year, the Miracle League met at the Triangle's Field of Dreams, at Adams Elementary School in Cary.

The Miracle League provides opportunities to children and youth with special needs to play baseball in an organized setting. Players ages 4-20 are able to participate regardless of their abilities and are assisted by buddies, some of whom have been with the league for its entire four-year history. Other Diocese youth are also getting into the swing of things. Recently, St. Michael the Archangel sent 70 members of its middle-school faith formation group The Edge to assist the league.

For Executive Director Tammi Dittmar, these games are all about breaking barriers. "For a lot of the children," she says, "it is the first time they have ever played on an organized team. Through these games, they get the chance to make friends, parents get to network and meet each other, and students coming to help get to see our kids in their own environment, which is really important."

The Franciscan School team was on hand to assist Miracle League players as they played through two games. The mood at the field was casual, complete with traditional snack shacks and announcers calling out each and every child's name. In the Miracle League every player bats and scores a run once an inning, all base runners are safe, and each team and player wins every game. It is this attitude which students find most challenging and rewarding, according to league manager Stara Porrazzo. Porrazzo and her husband, Joe, are both parishioners at St. Michael the Archangel. She sums up the impact of these games for all involved.

"Every game is a tie. It takes away the fear of playing for our kids, and they feel safe and wanted as a result," Porrazzo said. "Likewise, the students who come out grow through the experience, and mature because they realize it's not just about winning."

The Franciscan School coaches and players agree. Seventh-grader Matt Wacenske was on hand to assist the league players and had a good time. "It's a fun day," he said, "but you also realize that these kids need our help and I am glad we can do this for them."

Franciscan's head coach Scott Pose, a former major league baseball player for the New York Yankees and the Florida Marlins, first heard of the league several years ago and immediately committed to helping. "It is important to expose our players to kids with disabilities," he said. "It gives them a perspective that all of this should truly be about a game. It is baseball in its purest form." — Amanda Cadran

### Sacred Heart Mass Marks World Day of Prayer for Priests

►► On Friday, May 30, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral to mark the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and also to honor a special observance: In 2002, Pope John Paul II declared the feast as an annual World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests. That day was chosen because the feast of the Sacred Heart celebrates God's merciful love, which becomes tangible for priests in the Eucharistic Mystery, which they celebrate daily.

In advance of the observance, Bishop Burbidge wrote to the priests of the Diocese to express "gratitude for your priestly support and profound thanks for your priestly example and dedicated service."

"It is in prayer that the effectiveness of our priestly ministry...begins," the Bishop wrote. "As priests, we encounter this most profoundly in our celebration of the Eucharist, where we are drawn into communion with Christ."

He also invited the priests and faithful of the Diocese to include a special intention at Masses celebrated on this feast: "As the universal Church celebrates World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests, we pray that our Priests will be renewed in holiness, generous in service and fervent in their vocation, witnessing always to the wonders of God's love and the power of His Spirit."



## Five School Volunteers Receive Bishop Gossman Award

►► The 2007-2008 Bishop F. Joseph Gossman Award was presented to five individuals who, through their volunteer efforts, have made outstanding contributions to Catholic education in the Diocese of Raleigh. The five were honored at a reception and dinner held May 9 at the Fallon Center at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Raleigh. The event was attended by Bishop-Emeritus Gossman and Bishop Michael F. Burbidge.

The five recognized are Don Christenson, Wende Dakin, Vanda Lewis, Marjorie Shaughnessy and Lilly Tomlin.

Since 2003, Christenson has assisted with the library at Saint Mark Catholic School in Wilmington, spearheading a project to redesign the library to accommodate a 25-seat computer lab. Utilizing his woodworking skills, Christenson designed and built several sets for school plays and other functions.

Dakin is chair of the Cathedral School Hospitality Committee, working with a number of daily and annual events, including the hot lunch program, the Fall Festival and the school auction. Her "How can I help?" attitude is a plus in serving the needs of the students and the staff.

Vanda Lewis has volunteered at Saint Egbert School in Morehead City for over 12 years, beginning as the first volunteer computer technology coordinator. The school's technology program is the result of her constant attention and hard work. She has provided staff development workshops for teacher as well as one-on-one training sessions.

Shaughnessy is the founder of the Saint Joseph Catholic Preschool, serving as the volunteer director/teacher of the program for 12 years. She has led the preschool through accreditation and worked through the facility being flooded at one time. Her dedication provides early childhood education to families that may not be able to afford such a program.

For seven years, Tomlin has helped the staff at Blessed Sacrament Catholic School in Burlington, in a variety of tasks from copying projects to answering the telephone to providing a break to teachers during the day to whatever else she can do to assist during the day. As with the other recipients, Tomlin is a blessing to the school.

A \$500 grant will be awarded in the name of each honoree to the scholarship fund of the school he or she represents.



Don Christenson, Wende Dakin, Vanda Lewis, Marjorie Shaughnessy, Lilly Tomlin, at award ceremony honoring 2007-2008 Catholic Schools Volunteers of the Year.



## St. Thomas More Academy Holds Annual Cotillion

►► St. Thomas More Academy of Raleigh (STMA) held its 4th annual Spring Cotillion Saturday, May 10 at the Fallon Center at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. This year's event was the biggest cotillion the school has hosted, with over 80 students in attendance.

At first glance, the cotillion seems like any traditional high school function, but very quickly it is apparent that the school has worked hard to make this annual event a unique one. According to Rod Ruiz, the school's headmaster, the cotillion is an extension of the school's Catholic mission in that it serves as an opportunity for every student to participate in a "cultured, dignified evening."

"The cotillion is fundamentally different from other types of high school events," Ruiz says. "Tonight is not about self-involvement. Students learn to relate to each other and they also learn that civility can be fun."

Students do not bring dates to the cotillion, but instead are paired together by the faculty. Classes sit intermingled at tables, making for conversation and connections that may not always happen otherwise.

After-dinner dances included waltzes, the two-step and swing. Students are prepared for the cotillion's entertainment portion through a non-credited course led by STMA volunteer and long-term supporter Patricia Guin, who also is entrusted with teaching etiquette to her students. The class typically begins in late February, according to Guin, and students meet for approximately one hour per week.

Guin explains the benefits of the event. "We show students the best of our culture, what is good, true, and beautiful, and seek to draw them to it," she says. "We believe that all beauty comes from God and we should seek to bring Him into every aspect of our lives and let Him shine forth."

"This is not something that a young person can learn on his own from a text. It's a way of living and behaving that must be taught by those who believe it and live it."

Parents as well as students have the opportunity to participate in the cotillion. Volunteers were on hand to assist with table service. Volunteer Sidney Reynolds, the mother of Tyler, a senior at STMA, believes in the evening's message of refinement and dignity through social graces. "The cotillion makes the application of skills such as etiquette a part of real life," she said.

— Amanda Cadran





Twelve members of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scranton, Penn. at Mass of Thanksgiving for their religious order's 80 years of service to Saint Mary Church in Goldsboro. The 12 are among approximately 80 sisters who have served at the school beginning in 1927.

## Goldsboro Parish Honors IHM Sisters for 80 Years of Service

►► On Trinity Sunday, May 18, parishioners of Saint Mary Parish in Goldsboro thanked the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for more than 80 years of service to the parish, by some 80 Sisters over the years. The Sisters, based in Scranton, Penn., who arrived in Goldsboro in August of 1927

to staff the original Saint Mary School, are ending their work in the parish this year.

A Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated by Saint Mary Pastor Father Tom Norris, and attended by Saint Mary parishioners and school alumni and a dozen IHM Sisters from around the Diocese. Dr. Michael Fedewa, Diocesan Superintendent of Catholic Formation and Education, read a letter of thanks on behalf of the Diocese of Raleigh from the Most Reverend Mi-

chael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh.

"While the school has always been the primary mission of the Sisters," the Bishop wrote, "they have also provided service to the parish as Eucharistic ministers, lectors, teachers of religious education and recently they have been involved with visiting the sick. They have been fully committed to the spiritual welfare of the people of Saint Mary Parish. We are grateful for their vocation and their presence."

## Bishop Celebrates Baccalaureate Mass, Receives Degree from Belmont Abbey

►► Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor for Humane Letters by Belmont Abbey College at its 130th commencement Saturday, May 17. The degree certificate cited Bishop Burbidge's "life of service to the Church" and his "dedication to the education and formation of future priests."

An honorary degree was also presented to Serrin Foster, President of Feminists for Life of America, an organization that advocates for the rights and dignity of women while upholding the respect and dignity for life. Foster has worked diligently in support of benefits for pregnant women and worked to prevent coerced abortions.

The College's Baccalaureate Mass was celebrated prior to the awarding of the degrees, with Bishop Burbidge as presider and homilist. Noting the amount of advice men

and women receive upon graduation, Bishop Burbidge reminded the graduates of the recent encouragement Pope Benedict XVI gave to young adults during his recent visit to the U.S. "The Holy Father reminds you," the Bishop said, "that you will only be able to transform the world if you 'Stay in the hands of Jesus and give Him yours.'"

Founded in 1876, Belmont Abbey College is home to more than 1,200 students from 29 states and 24 countries. The Benedictine school is located on the 650-acre monastic property of Belmont Abbey. The abbey was started by monks who came from the first Benedictine monastery established in the U.S., Saint Vincent Archabbey in Latrobe, Penn. The crozier used by Bishop Burbidge during the Mass was that of Bishop Leo Haid, a Benedictine monk, who also served as Abbot of Belmont. In 1888, the Holy See made the State of North Carolina a Vicariate Apostolic and Abbot Haid was ordained Bishop and appointed Vicar Apostolic for North Carolina. Bishop Haid died in 1924.



## things to do:

### Natural Family Planning

builds strong marriages and families. It is medically safe, morally acceptable and highly effective to postpone and achieve pregnancy. Natural Family Planning can build intimacy, increase communication in your marriage and it is inexpensive. Do you want to learn more about Natural Family Planning? If so, a series of classes on Natural Family Planning will begin soon. You are encouraged to attend the course at St. Mark Catholic Church in Wilmington, N.C., beginning at 1 p.m. July 13. Please call Anthony and Tracy Smith at 910.793.4873 or e-mail [atsmith@bellsouth.net](mailto:atsmith@bellsouth.net) for more information and registration.

St. Joseph's AAMEN Chapter will host the **St. Joseph's Gospel Choir** from Alexandria, Va., in a

benefit concert at 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 2817 Poole Road, Raleigh, N.C. "Singing for Scholars" is an annual benefit concert for foster children of Wake County. The admission is simply school supplies. Book bags are a much needed item. Monetary donations are also accepted. This is a sponsored AAMEN Diocese Program. Contact Daphne Randolph 919.829.9486 or Martha Bailey 919.821.9762.

**Second Annual Bike for Life Pilgrimage Aug. 8-16.** Join us in a 9-day cycling pilgrimage from Raleigh, N.C. to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.! Seven of the days will be spent in the Diocese of Raleigh and the last two in Washington, D.C. Families, youth, young adults welcome. Three Franciscan Friars of the Renewal including Father

Fidelis, CFR, will participate in this pilgrimage riding in their habits! There will be a formal meeting at 4 p.m. June 22 in preparation for the Pilgrimage. RSVP with Sabrena at 919.523.1945 or e-mail [bikeforlifepilgrimage@yahoo.com](mailto:bikeforlifepilgrimage@yahoo.com). Web site <http://bikeforlifepilgrimage.com/home.html>

**African Ancestry Senior Adult Harambee Pilgrimage, July 16-20.** St. Alphonsus Center, 810 Reid Street East, Wilson, NC 27893. This pilgrimage is designed for adults 55 years and older. The group will travel via motorcoach; pick up will be from Raleigh & Wilson, N.C. The group will visit historical Catholic sites and cultural locations. Msgr. Thomas Hadden will be the group leader. Cost \$480 which includes transportation and hotel. For more information contact Martha Carter-Bailey at 919.821.9762 or Martha.

[bailey@raldioc.org](mailto:bailey@raldioc.org).

**African Ancestry Ministry & Evangelization Unity Mass and Picnic, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. July 26.** St. Alphonsus Center, 810 Reid Street East, Wilson, N.C. 27893. Mass of the Unity of Christians, followed by the Annual Unity Picnic. Mass time: 10 a.m. followed by picnic. Celebrant: Fr. Marcos Leon. For more information contact Martha Carter-Bailey at 919.821.9762 or Martha. [bailey@raldioc.org](mailto:bailey@raldioc.org).

**2008 Jóvenes Carismáticos "VIVE,"** Sábado 16 de Agosto. Invitados: Padre Alberto Cutié, Padre Edgar Sepúlveda, Son by Four, Hermana Glenda, Iván Díaz, Joan Carlos. En el KoKa booth Amphitheatre de 12 pm - 10 pm, 8003 Regency Parkway, Cary, NC 27518 Contactos: P. Edgar Sepúlveda 919.429.1003, Winston Guevara 336.512.1729.

## Official Announcements

►► Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following priest assignments. **Effective July 8, 2008**

**Reverend Carlos N. Arce**, Administrator of Saint Andrew Mission in Red Springs, is appointed full-time Vicar for Hispanics with residence at Saint Michael the Archangel Rectory in Cary.

**Reverend Bruce Bavinger, S.J.**, Parochial Vicar at Saint Therese Parish in Wilson and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Rocky Mount, is additionally appointed Priestly Minister to Immaculate Conception Mission in Rocky Mount. Father Bavinger will also provide direction for the establishment of a Jesuit Hispanic Spirituality Center at Saint Mary Parish in Goldsboro.

**Reverend Paul Brant, S.J.**, Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Newton Grove, is appointed Hispanic Priestly Minister at Saint Mary Parish in Goldsboro and Holy Trinity Parish in Williamston, with residence at Saint Mary Parish in Goldsboro.

Father Brant will also provide direction for the establishment of a Jesuit Hispanic Spirituality Center at Saint Mary Parish in Goldsboro.

**Very Reverend Joseph T. Brennan, O.S.F.S., V.F.**, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Wilmington and Dean of the Cape Fear Deanery, is appointed Pastor of Holy Infant Parish in Durham.

**Very Reverend Samuel J. Buchholz, V.F.**, Pastor of Holy Family Parish in Elizabeth City and Dean of the Albemarle Deanery, is reappointed to a six-year term as Pastor of Holy Family Parish in Elizabeth City.

**Reverend Luis Alberto Domico**, Parochial Vicar at Immaculate Conception Parish in Clinton, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Raleigh.

**Very Reverend James F. Gameau, V.F.**, Pastor of Saint Mary Parish in Mount Olive and Dean of the Newton Grove Deanery, is additionally appointed Diocesan Director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate.

**Reverend Carlos Mario Gonzalez**, Parochial Vicar at Maria, Reina de las Americas Parish in Mount Olive, (temporary assignment) is confirmed as Parochial Vicar at Maria, Reina de las Americas Parish in Mount Olive.

**Reverend Marco Antonio Gonzalez-Hernandez**, Parochial Vicar at Saint Bernadette Parish in Fuquay-Varina, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Mark Parish in Wilmington.

**Reverend Monsignor Matthew D. Hendrick**, Pastor of Saint Mark Parish in Wilmington is appointed Pastor of Saint Therese Parish in Wrightsville Beach.



**Reverend Luis Angel Hurtado**, Parochial Vicar at Saint Anne Parish in Edenton, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Bernadette Parish in Fuquay-Varina.

**Very Reverend Patrick Keane**, Vicar for Hispanics, is appointed Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Newton Grove.

**Reverend J. William Long**, in residence at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, is appointed Administrator of Saint Charles Borromeo Parish in Ahoskie.

**Reverend Roger Malonda**, Parochial Vicar at Saint Mary, Mother of the Church Parish in Garner and Saint Mary Parish in Goldsboro, is appointed full-time Parochial Vicar at Saint Mary, Mother of the Church Parish in Garner.

**Reverend John E. McGee, O.S.F.S.**, Parochial Vicar at Saint Ann Parish in Naples, Fla., is appointed Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Wilmington.

**Reverend Joseph G. Mulroney**, Pastor of Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish in Raleigh, is reappointed to a six-year term as Pastor of Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish in Raleigh.

**Reverend Daniel D. Oschwald**, Pastor of Annunciation Parish in Havelock is appointed Pastor of Saint Mark Parish in Wilmington.

**Reverend Walter Ospina-Briceno**, Pastor of Saint Therese Parish in Wrightsville Beach, is appointed Pastor of Saint Andrew Parish in Red Springs.

**Reverend Gregory Spencer**, Parochial Vicar at Saint Mark Parish in Wilmington, is appointed Pastor of Annunciation Parish in Havelock.

**Reverend Edgar Sepulveda**, Pastor of Maria Reina de las Americas Parish in Mount Olive, is additionally appointed Pastor of Santa Clara Mission in Magnolia.

## Newly-Ordained

**Reverend Mr. Romen A. Acero**, following his Ordination to the Priesthood on June 7, will be appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Thomas More Parish in Chapel Hill, effective July 8.

**Reverend Mr. Michael R. Spurr**, following his Ordination to the Priesthood on June 7, will be appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Michael the Archangel Parish in Cary, effective July 8.

**Effective August 7, 2008**

**Reverend Raymond J. Donaldson, S.J.**, of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus, is appointed Pastor of Holy Cross Parish, Durham.

**Reverend Robert M. Hussey, S.J.**, of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus, Pastor of Holy Cross Parish, Durham, is appointed Pastor of Saint Raphael the Archangel Parish, Raleigh.

# Cutting corners or just stupid?

## what to do when you disagree with management decisions



**Carol is a mid-level manager who's becoming frustrated with the way her company is being managed.**

**Q:** *I know the economy is tough these days and our profit margin is shrinking, but we're still making money. However, in order to look good for the market analysts and to ensure that bonuses are paid, we're cutting corners, which will hurt us in the long run. I just don't think we're being very wise about how we're balancing the current and future interests of the company. We're victims of what I think is a growing misconception in the marketplace as to how the long-term stability of businesses should be managed. Whenever I raise this issue in staff meetings, management doesn't necessarily disagree, but they say we won't have a long-term strategy if we don't survive today. – Carol*

**A:** In their book *Built to Last*, James Collins and Jerry

Porras studied visionary companies that have prospered over many years compared to companies that have merely survived. They identified common elements across the visionary companies that seemed to define the key characteristics of successful, lasting companies. One of the myths they exposed about the most successful companies is the notion that they exist first

and foremost to maximize profits. They write the following: "Yes, they seek profits, but they're

equally guided by a core ideology – core values and a sense of purpose beyond just making money. Yet, paradoxically, the visionary companies make more money than the more purely profit-driven comparison

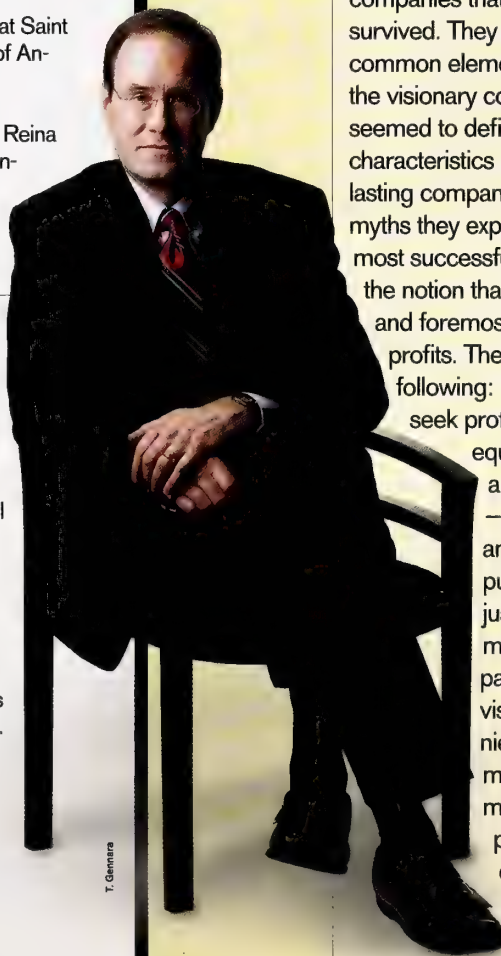
companies" (p 8).

**This brings to mind a couple of Gospel lessons:**

- The parable of the unstable foundation (Matt 7:24–27). If the business is not built on a rock solid foundation of core purpose and values, when significant economic and cultural storms hit, the business will be unlikely to weather those storms.
- In Matthew's Gospel, Christ teaches us about dependence on God for material sustenance (6:25–34). When the business puts priority on honoring its core purpose and values (seeking first the kingdom of God) it receives the profits it needs to continue pursuing its purpose.

Most companies develop a set of values in good economic times. The challenge is to trust those values as the guiding light during the economic storms rather than retreating to a strategy of simply managing dollars and cents.

– Tim Ryan



T. Gennaro



# A Willingness to Give

Sacred Heart, Southport



A man in Southport, NC, is recalling his Baptist boyhood in nearby Wilmington in the 1960's: "When I was in high school, I knew of only two Catholic families in the area. And that was in Wilmington – forget about Southport. To think that now the largest church in Southport is the Catholic church – that is stunning!"

That man is Father Trent Watts, Pastor of Southport's largest church, Sacred Heart. How did this small coastal village grow a Catholic parish of nearly 1,000 families? The catalyst has been St. James Plantation, a sprawling, upscale residential community that has attracted a huge influx of northerners, most of them retirees and most of them, it seems, Catholic. And it's still growing.

Not that Catholics did not exist in the area before the boom. Mass has been said there since before the Civil War, when Southport was a mission of St. Thomas in Wilmington. One of the Catholics there actually began a small settlement after the war in what is now Maco, where a handful of the faithful built

a church and a school. In the 1890's the settlement was succeeded by a church in Delco.

In the 1930s Father Francis J. Howard, based in Whiteville, was saying Mass twice a month at private homes in Southport, staying nights in the town's Civilian Conservation Corps camp. Finally, in the spring of 1941, a newly built Sacred Heart Church was dedicated by Bishop Eugene McGuinness. In response to the rapid growth of the Catholic population in the '80s and '90s, parishioners built the current church, which was dedicated by Bishop F. Joseph Gossman in 2003.

If the members of Sacred Heart



► The original Sacred Heart Church is now a private home. The photo with the bell tower shows the current church.

are distinguished by their good fortune, this vibrant parish is also distinguished by its generosity. "The single most defining characteristic of our

parishioners," Father Watts says, "is their willingness to give." Among its many outreach activities, Sacred Heart has adopted Holy Trinity Parish in Williamston, NC. A large Knights of Columbus chapter and Ladies Guild are also evidence of

Sacred Heart's eagerness to give back to those in need.

Another distinguishing characteristic of

Sacred Heart's parishioners, not surprisingly, is their age.

In a congregation composed largely of retirees, the spiritual care of those facing illness and death is an ongoing pastoral concern. Something Father Watts appreciates most about his flock, though, is perhaps tied to maturity: "More than most," he says, "they understand the need for their Church and their faith."

the Diocese of  
**Raleigh**

**Sacred Heart,  
Southport**

5269 Doshier  
Cutoff  
Southport, NC

► Call the  
parish office for  
Mass times:  
**910.457.6173**



## Looking for Answers to Your Estate Planning Questions?

I have questions about my Will.  
How do I make a bequest to the Church?

Do I need a Trust?

Will a Charitable Gift Annuity provide me with income for life?

Can I increase my income and make a gift to my Church?

Are there benefits to donating stock or real estate?

What documents do I need to protect myself and my family?

To request information to help answer these questions,  
fill out the form and check the topics in which you are interested.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date(s) of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me information on:

- ☐ Wills
- ☐ Making a Bequest
- ☐ Trusts
- ☐ Charitable Gift Annuities
- ☐ Gifting Securities
- ☐ Gifting Real Estate
- ☐ Documents Needed for My Estate Plan
- ☐ Other (Please list topic) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Office of Stewardship & Development  
Diocese of Raleigh  
715 Nazareth Street; Raleigh, NC 27606  
rossi@raldioc.org

Visit our Estate Planning Web Site:

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.

## Retirement is not what it use to be!

At Pennybyrn at Maryfield, you are free to do what you choose, at a speed that's comfortable for you. Try something new. Travel more. Stretch your mind. Forget yard work and housekeeping. Gear up for a life of leisure that can take you anywhere you want to go!

Visit us today, or call (336) 821-4050 or  
toll-free (866) 627-9343.



**PENNYBYRNN**  
at MARYFIELD  
A Retirement Living Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com) • 109 Penny Road, High Point, NC 27260



MAG/NCC/6-08

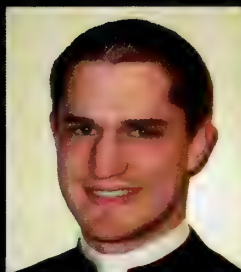


# HEROES OF SACRIFICE SEMINARIANS



**RUBEN  
ALWIN BENTHALL**

ST CHARLES BORROMEO  
1st YEAR THEOLOGY



**DON  
EDWARD MALONEY**

ST CHARLES BORROMEO  
1st YEAR THEOLOGY

Pray for our seminarians by name, especially for **Al Benthall** and **Don Maloney**, as they continue their formation for the Priesthood.

**Need help discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life?**

Contact Father Ned Shlesinger

919.832.6280 / [vocations@raldioc.org](mailto:vocations@raldioc.org)

**Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh**  
[www.dioceseofraleigh.org/vocations](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/vocations)



July 2008



**NC Catholics**

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



please recycle



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514

95219

P 12 1217

UNC CHAPEL HILL SERIALS DEPARTMENT 34

CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY

CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

August 2008

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

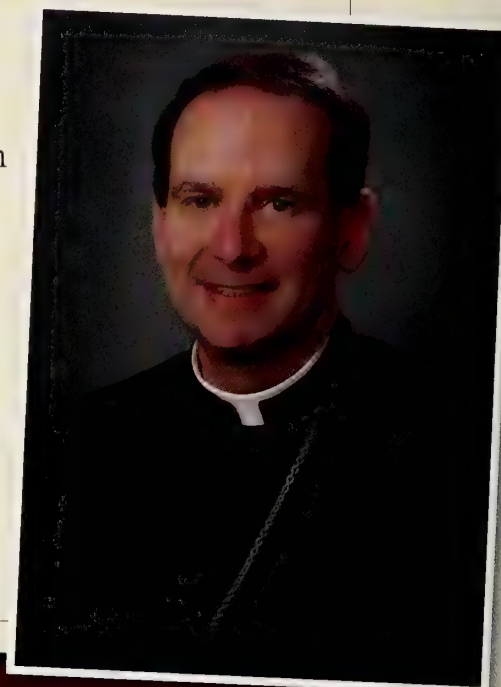


## “God Journeys With Us”

The Diocese of Raleigh welcomes the return of the  
Immaculata IHM Sisters



**T**here were seven years in my priestly life when I lived with more than 80 women! They were grace-filled years during which I served as chaplain at the Motherhouse for the Sisters of Mercy. I was privileged to celebrate Mass each morning at 6:30 a.m. in the magnificent chapel. I was overwhelmed daily as I looked at the Sisters and saw the countless number of years of faithful service to the Church that were represented in ministries involving health care, Catholic education, social work, counseling and many other areas. I was truly inspired and humbled each day to be on such holy ground.



My deep respect and admiration for Women Religious have been a part of my life since the first grade. I was taught in Catholic grammar school, high school and even college by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of

## Thank you, Sisters!

What a blessing and gift they are to us

Mary. They were and remain known for their profound commitment to Catholic education. I am blessed to this day to receive words of encouragement from the Sister who taught me in the first grade. I was honored that the first Sister who asked me to consider being a priest and another Sister who is a dear friend of my family were present for my installation as Bishop of Raleigh. Another Sister is the aunt of one of my closest priest-friends and I am honored to call her by the same name, "aunt."

I am so pleased to welcome the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, back to the Diocese of Raleigh. The congregation is remembered fondly in the Diocese of Raleigh for the time they served at Cathedral School in the 1970's and '80s. This past fall, I spoke with their General Superior, boasting that our Diocese is faith-filled, vibrant and ever-growing. I mentioned the various opportunities for ministry for Women Religious and the great potential for vocations. I asked for consideration that some Sisters be assigned to the Diocese of Raleigh. I was overwhelmed when I was informed that five Sisters were assigned to ministry in Raleigh in the areas of catechesis and evangelization, Catholic education and parish work, including special service to the Hispanic community. I am especially grateful to the congregation for the great generosity in sending us five dedicated, enthusiastic and holy Sisters. I know they will be a tremendous blessing to our Diocese and all those they will serve. I especially thank Father John Forbes and the parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes for making available the convent for the Sisters' residence and for the extraordinary welcome that has been extended to them.

This particular time is also a wonderful opportunity for me, on behalf of the entire Diocese, to express sincere gratitude to all the Sisters serving in our Diocese and to their congregations and communities for the support they extend to us. I have deep respect for the Sisters and am inspired by the countless ways they serve the Lord and His people in our local church. What a blessing and gift they are to us! Please join me in praying daily for them and their great work. Pray also that more women from the Diocese of Raleigh will hear the Lord's call to give their lives in service to the Church as vowed Religious ever faithful to the promises of poverty, chastity and obedience.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us!

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh



# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

## cover story

### "God Journeys With Us"

The Diocese of Raleigh  
welcomes the return of the  
Immaculata IHM Sisters

## from the Bishop

2 Thank you, Sisters!

— Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

## since you asked ...

8 Dear NCC: Are Catholics  
guilty of imposing our beliefs  
on others?— Father Tad Pacholczyk

## from the editor

9 On the Road in Our Diocese

— Rich Reece



## theology 101

10 Confirmation: what you need  
to know about this often  
misunderstood sacrament — Rita Thiron

## voices in our church

13 Good News Triggers  
Good Memories  
— Msgr. Thomas Hadden

13 La Asunción De La Virgen Maria  
— Padre Fernando Torres

## your marriage matters

14 She says: I am so depressed.  
He says: Snap out of it. What do they  
do? — Tom and JoAnne Fogle

## parenting journey

15 Preserve your family history  
While your family is still around  
— Dr. Cathleen McGreal

## parish profile

28 Mission Accomplished  
Santa Clara, Magnolia — Rich Reece

## el hispano Católico

### 18 el hispano católico

►► Tres Iglesias Todas  
las iglesias de la Diócesis de  
Raleigh reciben a los católicos  
hispanos. Lea la historia de tres  
parroquias de la Diócesis que  
cuenta entre sus miembros a  
una gran comunidad hispana.  
— Dana Lorelle

### 20 Querido lector de NCC

►► Querido lector: ¿Se  
sienten culpables los  
católicos al imponer sus  
creencias a otros?

— El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

### 21 Obispo Burbidge

►► ¡Muchas gracias  
Hermanas!

— Obispo Michael F. Burbidge



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
**PUBLISHER**

Frank Morock  
**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**

August 2008 • Vol. 4 : Issue 6

Richard Reece  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Holly Stringer  
**ADVERTISING MANAGER**

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Father Tad Pacholczyk  
Matt Tessnear  
Father Fernando Torres  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Nathalie Fuerst  
**TRANSLATOR**

Denmark Photo & Video (cover)  
Byron Holland  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
**CHAIRMAN**

Patrick M. O'Brien  
**PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
**EDITORIAL DIRECTOR**

Vicki Bedard  
**DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING**

Jillane Job  
**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT**

Patricia Oliver  
**SECRETARY**

Patrick Dally  
**ART DIRECTOR**

Lynne Ridenour  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNER/WEB MASTER**

Abby Wieber  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNERS**

Betsy Miner  
**PROOFREADING**

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Tim Ryan  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

InnerWorkings  
**PRINT MANAGEMENT**



NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and June. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™ Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

**Give the gift of  
NCCatholics:**

**Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730**

## Dr. John Haas to Inaugurate Bishop's Lecture Series

**O**n Friday, Sept. 19, Dr. John Haas, president of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, will speak at the Fallon Center of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Raleigh on the nature and formation of the Catholic conscience. Dr. Haas talk will inaugurate the Bishop's Lecture Series, a trio of lectures over the next year focusing on medical and bioethical issues facing Catholics.

Dr. Jacques Mistrot, M.D., a retired heart surgeon and himself a frequent lecturer on bioethical issues such as stem cell research, was asked by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, to organize the series. "The target audience," Mistrot said, "is all Catholics, but particularly Catholic medical professionals. We want them to have the best possible understanding of current Catholic teaching on these critical issues, and a chance to ask questions about situations that regularly impact their work. The lecture on conscience formation, in September, was also planned with the upcoming election in mind, in concert with the U.S. Bishops' call to faithful citizenship."



With medical professionals in mind, the three lectures for the 2008-2009 series have been scheduled in areas with large health care centers. The second lecture, on Jan. 9, 2009, will be delivered by N.C. State Professor of Philosophy Dr. Robert Hambourger at St. Peter Catholic Church in Greenville, N.C. The subject will be abortion and the devaluation of human life in our society. The third lecture, scheduled for May 29, 2009, at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Chapel Hill, N.C., will feature Dr. Patrick O'Connell, a physician in private practice in the Duke medical system, speaking on John Paul II's *Theology of the Body and its relationship to reproductive issues facing medical professionals.*

John Haas, the first lecturer, is president of The National Catholic Bioethics Center. The

center was established in 1972 to apply the teachings of the Catholic Church to ethical issues arising from developments in medicine, the life sciences and civil law. It is the largest Catholic publisher of books and periodicals on bioethics in the country. Haas received his Ph.D. in moral theology from The Catholic University of America and his S.T.L. in moral theology from the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. He also has a master of divinity degree and has studied at the University of Munich and the University of Chicago Divinity School. Before assuming the presidency of The National Catholic Bioethics Center, Haas was the John Cardinal Krol Professor of Moral Theology at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and adjunct professor at the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for studies in marriage and the family, Washington, DC. He is a consultant to the Committee for Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. For a number of years, Haas produced and hosted a national television program known as The St. Charles Forum which was carried on the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN).

Preparations are underway for a 2009-2010 series to address topics such as stem cells, cloning, end-of-life issues and organ transplantation. "All of the talks will utilize Church teaching and documents to explain and clarify the Catholic position," Mistrot said. Tickets will be limited by the capacity of the venues. "For that reason," Mistrot continued, "we hope to present the talks on the Diocesan Web site to reach an even wider audience."

Three hundred tickets will be available to the first lecture at Our Lady of Lourdes. They will be moderately priced and available on a first-come, first-served basis. For tickets or more information on the series, call 919-861-4600.





## Bishop Gossman Marks 40 Years as a Bishop

►► On Friday, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>, 3pm at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Cary the Diocese of Raleigh will honor Bishop Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman with a Mass of Thanksgiving. The September issue of *NC Catholics* will feature an exclusive interview with Bishop Gossman on his 40 years as a Bishop.

## Hector Velazco Bonilla Ordained a Permanent Deacon

►► On Wednesday, July 23, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge ordained Hector Velasco Bonilla to the Order of Deacon at a 7 pm Mass at Saint Raphael the Archangel Church in Raleigh.

Mr. Velasco, a native of Buenaventura, Colombia, has been a member of the

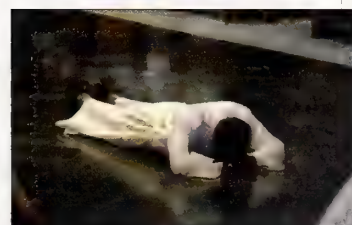
Hispanic Ministry staff at Saint Raphael Church since 2000. He has a Bachelor Degree in Theology from the University Pontificia Bolivariana in Colombia where he was a seminarian for seven years. He came to the United States in 1998 and enrolled in the Diocese of Raleigh's formation program.

"Deciding to leave the program was very difficult," Deacon Velazco says, "but

Monsignor Michael Clay [Director of Vocations at the time] was understanding. And he told me, 'You still have a vocation in the Church.'" Deacon Velazco also cites the encouragement of Monsignor Gerald L. Lewis, former Pastor of St. Raphael, where he became a full-time minister to Hispanics in 2000. "My biggest satisfaction in this work has been to serve," Deacon

Velazco says. "Especially the poor, and our many Hispanic youth." His work in ministry has involved a wide range of service: catechesis, spiritual direction, helping people find food and housing, and working with young people to combat the lure of gangs.

Deacon Velazco considers his ordination "a new and special blessing of God's grace. I've been blessed to work in the Catholic Church my whole life, and now with God's grace I will serve as a deacon in the Diocese of Raleigh." He credits his parents, Epifanio Velazco and Teofila Bonilla, with giving him a strong faith formation, and looks forward to being with them at a special ceremony of Thanksgiving in Colombia in August. Deacon Velazco and his wife, Maria, are the parents of twin boys.



Front: Hector's wife, Maria Bonilla, and twin sons Jeremy and Joshua. Back: Reverend Francis Gillespie, S.J., recent Pastor of St. Raphael the Archangel Church; Deacon Hector Velazco; Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh; Very Reverend James F. Garneau, V.F., Diocesan Director of the Permanent Diaconate Program.



## Monsignor James R. Jones, 1924-2008

►► The Reverend Monsignor James R. Jones, Pastor-Emeritus of Saint Paul Parish in New Bern, died June 12. He was 83.

Monsignor Jones was born in Baltimore, Dec. 15, 1924, one of three children. His father died when he was three and his mother died when he was seven. The Jones children were raised by an aunt and uncle.

In an interview two years ago, Monsignor Jones said he wanted to be a priest from a very early age. He had watched his older brother as an altar server and emulated him. The thought of priesthood was a logical next step. He recalled as a student hearing Bishop Eugene J. McGuinness, from the Diocese of Raleigh, speak at a parish along the Maryland shore about the need for priests in North Carolina. "I thought," he said, "if I ever become a priest, I'm



going to North Carolina."

Following Catholic preparatory school, Monsignor Jones entered the seminary and was chosen by the Most Reverend Vincent S. Waters, then Bishop of Raleigh, to serve in Raleigh. He was ordained in 1951.

As a young priest, he was given a number of assignments, but the one he remembered most was co-director of the Motor Chapel, a church on wheels that brought the sacraments, retreats

and three-day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament to rural communities throughout the state. He said Bishop Waters was determined there should be a Catholic presence in every county in the state.

Father JaVan Saxon, pastor of Saint Mary Church in Laurinburg, served with Monsignor Jones in the mid-1980s at Saint Paul Church. "Monsignor Jones was my first and only pastor. I was with him as parochial vicar at St. Paul in New Bern for a wonderful two years," Father Saxon said. "He was just a phenomenal man and a devoted priest. He loved God's people, and there were no limits to what he would do for them. He was a humble man, so approachable, never haughty. He was a strong supporter of African American ministry. He was a man of the people, of the Church and of God. I could not have had a better pastor, a better teacher for my first priestly assignment."

In the 2006 interview, Monsignor Jones spoke of one his most challenging assignments: He was sent by Bishop Waters in 1964 to Washington, N.C. to merge the white parish in the city into the black parish. Similar mergers were taking place in various communities in the Diocese, in most cases with black parishes being merged into white ones. He recalled that the merger went well, even though he had "several restless nights."

In the 1960s and 1970s, Monsignor Jones was assigned to several parishes in the triangle area, including Sacred Heart Cathedral. Part of his responsibility was being chaplain to the North Carolina State University Newman Club. A lover of sports, he became close to many of the NCSU coaches, including Al Michaels, Jim Donnan, Earl Edwards and Chuck Amato, whom he came to know when Amato was a student. Monsignor Jones smiled when he remembered, "I used to break down film with him."

As he looked back on his more than 50 years of priesthood, he said there was never anything else he ever thought of being, "other than quarterback of Notre Dame." But he quickly added, "That didn't happen."

"Being happy in what you do is important," Monsignor Jones said, "and I've been very happy in my priesthood."

## Bishop Appoints New Cape Fear Dean

►► The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge announces the appointment of Father Marcos Leon as Dean of the Cape Fear Deanery. The appointment is effective July 11, 2008 for a period of four years. Father Leon is the first Hispanic to be appointed to the position of Dean in the Diocese of Raleigh.

Father Leon's goal as Dean will be to bring the people and the clergy and Religious of the Deanery together. "And," he adds, "to emphasize the teachings of the Church." Father Leon also cites the importance of bringing the Anglo and Hispanic communities of the Deanery closer together in the Church. "With the Knights of Columbus we are organizing a Pro-life Mass," he said, "to which all the people and priests and parish organizations of the Deanery will be invited." Father Leon is pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Whiteville, NC, and Supervising Pastor of Our Lady of the Snows in Elizabethtown. The Cape Fear Deanery includes parishes in Burgaw, Castle Hayne, Hampstead, Riegelwood, Shallotte, Southport, Surf City, Wilmington, Wrightsville Beach and the two communities ministered by Father Leon.





## NC's Catholic Bishops Unveil New Public Policy Initiative

►► On July 2, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, and the Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte, announced the creation of Catholic Voice NC, a statewide initiative that will give Catholics in North Carolina the opportunity to communicate with their state legislators on issues of importance.

At a news conference at the State Legislative Building in Raleigh, the Bishops outlined the focus of Catholic Voice NC and unveiled a new joint Web site, [www.CatholicVoiceNC.org](http://www.CatholicVoiceNC.org), which will provide information to subscribers on legislative matters of interest to Catholics in light of Catholic teaching. Subscribers will receive alerts notifying them of pending legislation and have access to a system allowing them the capability to voice their support or objection to the legislation by email, telephone or regular mail.

Bishop Burbidge noted that legislative issues can be introduced and moved along rapidly in the general assembly. He said the technology used on the Web site will allow the Bishops to quickly communicate issues of importance to Catholics. In turn, subscribers will also be able to react quickly in contacting their state lawmakers on a given issue.

In his remarks at the news conference, Bishop Burbidge cited the U.S. Catholic Bishops' "long-standing record of being a moral voice in our country on issues of importance and concern to Catholics and all people of goodwill."

"Our primary concern will always be the sacredness of all human life and the dignity of each and every person: the unborn, the underprivileged and the often forgotten ... individuals who do not have very many advocates or lobbyists," Bishop Burbidge said.

"Catholic Voice North Carolina will not endorse candi-



dates or political parties," Bishop Jugis said in his statement. "We will call Catholics to action on legislative matters that touch upon Holy Scripture and/or the teaching of the Catholic Church."

Currently the Web site contains four initial topics; respect life, immigration, stem cell research and end of life issues. Additional topics will be added as issues and legislation arise.

Bishop Burbidge and Bishop Jugis also announced that candidates for governor and state legislative offices will be sent a candidate questionnaire in the next week asking their position on a variety of issues facing the state. A similar questionnaire will be sent to the U.S. Senate candidates and candidates seeking U.S. House seats. The results of the candidates' survey will be posted on [www.CatholicVoiceNC.org](http://www.CatholicVoiceNC.org) website in early October.

## Diocese Begins Jubilee Year of Saint Paul

►► The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge began the Jubilee Year of Saint Paul with the celebration of Mass at Saint Paul Catholic Church in New Bern, Saturday, June 28. This special year marks the 2,000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the apostle, considered the Church's first theologian. In his letter of June 5 announcing the Diocese's participation in the Jubilee Year, Bishop Burbidge noted how "especially fitting that we begin this year with Mass as we remember the

teaching of Saint Paul on the Eucharist."

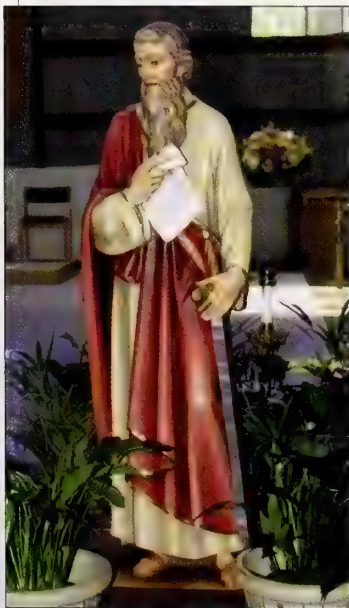
In his homily, the Bishop cited Holy Communion as one of the three specific themes we find in the writings of Saint Paul. The other two are Conversion and Crucified. Bishop Burbidge pointed to the life of Saint Paul and the conversion he underwent, as the apostle noted in Galatians 2: 20, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me."

Bishop Burbidge called on the faithful of the Diocese to be apostles in the spirit of Saint Paul. "Reach out to those who no longer come to Church

and invite them to the table of the Lord," the Bishop said. He repeated his request for parishes to initiate study and prayer groups devoted to the letters of Saint Paul.

Throughout this Jubilee Year of Saint Paul, the Diocese of Raleigh will provide resource material for individuals and parishes. "It is my hope and prayer," Bishop Burbidge said, "that these resources will provide spiritual and intellectual enrichment."

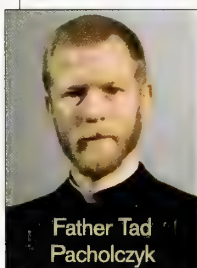
NC Catholics will carry a regular section throughout the year reporting parish initiatives to mark the Jubilee of St. Paul.





## Dear NCC: Are Catholics guilty of imposing our beliefs on others?

A lot of hot-button topics are being debated in our state legislatures these days, topics of great ethical and bioethical importance, ranging from emergency contraception to gay marriage. These debates address important issues for the future of our society. Lawmakers face the daunting task of making decisions about what should or should not be permitted by law within a reasonable society. Recently I was asked to speak in Virginia at legislative hearings about embryonic stem cell research. After I gave my testimony, one of the senators asked a pointed question. "Father Tad, by arguing against embryonic stem cell research, don't you see how you are trying to impose your beliefs on others, and shouldn't we as elected lawmakers avoid imposing a narrow religious view on the rest of society?" The senator's question was an example of the fuzzy thinking that has become commonplace in recent years within many state legislatures and among many lawmakers.



Father Tad Pacholczyk

— Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)

Two major errors were incorporated into the senator's question. First, the senator failed to recognize the fact that law is fundamentally about imposing somebody's views on somebody else. Imposition is the name of the game. It is the very nature of law to impose particular views on people who don't want to have those views imposed on them. Car thieves don't want laws imposed on them which prohibit stealing. Drug dealers don't want laws imposed on them which make it illegal to sell drugs. Yet our lawmakers are elected precisely to craft and impose such laws all the time. So the question is not whether we will impose something on somebody. The question is instead whether whatever is going to be imposed by the force of law is reasonable, just, and good for society and its members.

The second logical mistake the senator made was to suppose that because religion happens to hold a particular viewpoint, that implies that such a viewpoint should never be considered

by lawmakers or enacted into law. Religion teaches very clearly that stealing is immoral. Would it follow that if I support laws against stealing, I am imposing my narrow religious viewpoint on society? Clearly not. Rather, the subject of stealing is so important to the order of society that religion also feels compelled to speak about it. Religion teaches many things that can be understood as true by people who aren't religious at all. Atheists can understand just as well as Catholics how stealing is wrong, and most atheists are just as angry as their Catholic neighbors when their house is broken into and robbed. What is important is not whether a proposed law happens to be taught by religion, but whether that proposal is just, right, and good for society and its members.

To be more coherent, of course, the senator

**"Father Tad, by arguing against embryonic stem cell research, don't you see how you are trying to impose your beliefs on others, and shouldn't we as elected lawmakers avoid imposing a narrow religious view on the rest of society?"**

really should have chosen to address the substance of my testimony, rather than talking about the imposition of religious views. The argument I had offered, interestingly, did not depend on religious dogma at all. It depended rather on an important **scientific** dogma, namely, that all humans come from embryonic humans. The statement that I was once an embryo is a statement about embryology, not theology. Given the fact that we were all once embryonic humans it becomes very clear why destructive embryonic research is an immoral kind of activity. Exploiting the weak and not-yet-born in the interests of the powerful and the well-heeled should not be permitted in a civilized society. This argument,

## Dear NCC

This month with  
Father Tad Pacholczyk



moreover, can be clearly seen by atheists, not just Catholics.

During my testimony, I pointed out how in the United States we have stringent federal laws that protect not only the national bird, the bald eagle, but also that eagle's eggs. If you were to chance upon some of them in a nest out in the wilderness, it would be illegal for you to destroy those eggs. By the force of law, we recognize how the egg of the bald eagle, that is to say, the embryonic eagle inside that egg, is the same creature as the glorious bird that we witness flying high overhead. Therefore we pass laws to safeguard not only the adult but also the very youngest member of that species. Even atheists can see how a bald eagle's eggs should be protected; it's really not a religious question at all. What's so troublesome is how we are able to understand the importance of protecting the earliest stages of animal life but when it comes to our own human life, a kind of mental disconnect takes place. Our moral judgement quickly becomes murky and obtuse when we desire to do certain things that are not good, like having abortions, or destroying embryonic humans for their stem cells.

So anytime we come across a lawmaker who tries to suggest that an argument in defense of sound morals is nothing but imposing a religious viewpoint, we need to look deeper at what may really be taking place. That lawmaker may not be so concerned about avoiding the imposition of a particular view on others – more likely, they are jockeying to simply be able to impose **their** view, a view which is ultimately much less tenable and defensible in terms of sound moral thinking. Hence, they seek to short circuit the discussion by stressing religious zealotry and imposition without ever confronting the substantive ethical or bioethical argument itself. Once the religious imposition card is played, and Christian lawmakers suddenly become weak-kneed about defending human life and sound morals, the other side then feels free to do the imposing themselves, without having expended too much effort on confronting the essence of the moral debate itself.

**Send your questions to:**  
**"Since you asked ..."**

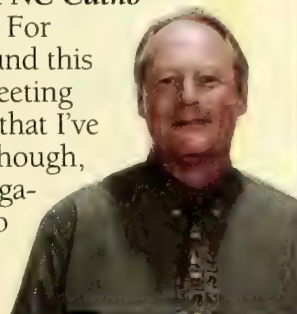
715 Nazareth St.  
 Raleigh, NC 27606

Or:  
[reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org)

from the editor

## On the Road in Our Diocese

**I** don't think we've ever published an issue of *NC Catholics* with more diocesan news than this one. For me, news means the opportunity to travel around this amazingly diverse Diocese with my camera, meeting readers and seeing places in eastern North Carolina that I've never visited before. When so much is happening, though, a lot of the pictures I take never make it into the magazine; there just isn't room. So this month I wanted to use this space to share a few of the out-takes from the last year. – Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.



The choir gets everyone into the spirit at the Black Catholic Conference in June.



Glenmary Brothers Curt Kedley and Jack Henn of the Catholic Community of Bertie County explore cooperation with an elder of a nearby Baptist church.



A focused participant in the Youth Jamboree at Short Journey Center in April.



At the press conference where the Bishops of Raleigh and Charlotte announced their Catholic Voice NC initiative, the faithful came to witness for life.



More than 400 Hispanic youth adored the Blessed Sacrament at the Encuentro Juvenil last June.



Our Lady of Lourdes Church was full for April's wedding anniversary Mass.



# Confirmation: what you need to know about this often misunderstood sacrament



**C**onfirmation may be the most misunderstood of all our seven sacraments. Perhaps this is because its ritual practices have had such a rich and varied history. Are we made soldiers of Christ? Are we more completely baptized? Is it simply a rite of passage for Catholic teenagers?

Even in the early Church, rituals occurred before and after the baptismal bath and before the Eucharistic meal. These included anointing(s), the laying on of hands, and consignation (signing with the cross). Eventually, these actions were reserved to the Bishop and, in the West,

## Timeline: 7 major developments in the practice of

### Old Testament

- **Ritual anointing** of king or prophet (1 Samuel 16: 12-13)

### New Testament

- **Holy Spirit** is present at Jesus' baptism (Mt 3: 13-17; Jn 1:33-34)
- **Jesus promises Paraclete** (Jn 16: 7-16; Acts 1:5)
- **Descent of Holy Spirit at Pentecost** (Acts 2:1-4)
- **Disciples lay hands** on new Christians, baptize with the Spirit (Acts 10:44-48, John 3, 2 Cor 3; Eph 1:13, Acts 8:17)

### 3rd to 6th Century

- No uniform practice

- **Post-baptismal anointing** by the priest is followed by the Bishop laying on hands, anointing and signing on forehead. (Apostolic Const., 360 A.D.)

### St. Irenaeus of Lyons

emphasized charismatic gifts

- **St. Augustine** centered more on Holy Spirit at baptism

- **St. Ambrose of Milan** stressed laying on of hands

- Eastern churches — baptism, chrismation, Communion
- The anointings before and after baptism took on different meanings — exorcistic to prepare for baptism vs.

sealing or marking for Christ

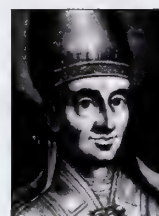
### 416 Innocent I

— A Bishop alone may "seal" (relied on Acts — Peter and John came after a baptism); priests may anoint with oil consecrated by the Bishop, but may not sign on forehead

- **The word "confirmation" is first used** at the Council of Orange in 441. Notes that chrism should be used only once.

- **The first doctrinal explanation of a separate confirmation ceremony** is given by Bishop Faustus of Riez in 458: "In baptism we are regenerated to life; after baptism we are confirmed for battle. In baptism we are washed; after baptism we are strengthened."

- **5th century** "seal of the



gift of the Holy Spirit" appears in reconciliation liturgy for heretics — most notably by **St. Leo the Great**

### 6th-13th centuries

- Dissolution of rites of initiation in West.
- Dioceses become larger, Bishops visit less frequently, yet infants need to be baptized soon after birth (*quamprimum*)
- Communion becomes separate from confirmation; then cup is removed in 1200s
- In East, practice of baptism, confirmation and Eucharist continues
- **9th century Rabanus Maurus** — "presbyteral





were separated from baptism and Eucharist. With changes in praxis came changes in theological understanding. For example, a slight slap on the cheek was added to remind the candidate that he/she was to be strong so as to defend and promote the faith. That gesture is no longer used. The laying on of hands and the anointing with chrism continue to serve as signs of the strengthening of baptismal grace and the conferral of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The sacrament of confirmation is conferred through the anointing of the forehead with sacred chrism, which is done with the laying on

## 4 things confirmation brings

- 1 increase and deepening of baptismal grace
- 2 unites us more firmly to Christ
- 3 increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit within us
- 4 gives us special strength to spread and defend the faith by word and action.

of hands and through the words "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Apostolic Constitution on the Sacrament of Confirmation, Pope Paul VI, 1972).

Like baptism, confirma-

tion is given only once, for it imparts a special indelible spiritual mark or character.

The Bishop is the usual minister of confirmation, though priests may also confer the sacrament. For instance, your pastor may administer all three sacraments of initiation – baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist – to the Elect at the Easter Vigil. Just as the Church did nearly 2,000 years ago!



## The Holy Oils

►► On Holy Thursday at the **Mass of Chrism**, the Bishop blesses and consecrates these three oils used during the year in our parishes. We use holy oils in four sacraments: baptism, confirmation, anointing of the sick, holy

orders and in the dedication of a church and altar.

**1 Oil of the Sick** is used to anoint the head and hands of a sick person.

**2 Oil of Catechumens** is used to anoint infants on the chest during baptisms and catechumens during their period of preparation

**3 Chrism** is used to anoint the crown of an infant's head after baptism; the forehead of a confirmation candidate; the hands during a priest's ordination or the head during a Bishop's; and the new altar of a church

# Confirmation



(priestly) unction gives Holy Spirit for habitation of God; Episcopal unction gives the grace of the seven-fold spirit

... with all the fullness of sanctity and of knowledge and of power."

- Infrequency of sacrament; parents reminded to have child confirmed

### • St. Alcuin (730-804)

notes, one is confirmed "so that the person may be strengthened to preach to others"



- **Confirmation named as one of seven sacraments** at Council of Lyons, 1274

- **St. Thomas Aquinas** sees analogy with bodily growth and spiritual growth; confirmation seen as sacrament of maturity; the grace of confirmation is an increase of grace already present at baptism, which causes grace initially. "For in baptism power is received for performing those things which pertain to one's own salvation in so far as one lives for oneself. In confirmation a person receives power for engaging in the spiritual battle against the enemies of the faith" (*Summa Theologiae* III).



## 15th to 17th Century

- **1439 Council of Florence** uses these scho-

- lastic ideas of "strengthening" the Bishop as ordinary minister; adds imposition of hands
- Changes to Roman Pontificals (books used by Bishops) include chrismation, laying on of hands, kiss of peace, and *alapa* (slap on cheek)
- **Council of Trent** Confirmation defended as sacrament; defends use of chrism; affirms the Bishop as ordinary minister

## 18th to 19th Century

- **Benedict XIV** reintroduces individual imposition of hand(s) with simultaneous signing on forehead.
- **1897 Leo XIII** Confirmation before first Communion



## 20th Century

- **1910 St. Pius X** Communion at age of reason, Confirmation after
- **Vatican II** Places confirmation again in context of fullness of initiation rather than ritualizing a rite of passage or maturity.
- Sacraments are a sign of God's grace
- Called for reform of rite
- Connection to Bishop, apostolic origins of Church (CCC 1292).
- **1971 Pope Paul VI** promulgates new Rite of Confirmation; writes Apostolic Constitution – *Divinae Consortium Naturae*





## worried about spouse, kids?

be like St. Monica and keep on prayin'

**I**f there were a poster child for the power of prayer, it would be St. Monica, whose feast day we celebrate on August 27.

Through her unceasing prayers and un-failing example of how to live a Christ-like life, St. Monica brought about the conversion of both her husband, Patricius, and her son, St. Augustine, one of the greatest Doctors of the Church.

St. Monica was born in 332 A.D. in Tagaste, North Africa. Her parents were Christians and she grew up in an atmosphere of devotion and Christian practice. However, her life became much harder when she was married to a man who was a pagan and made no secret of his dislike for Christianity.

**Rather than nag her husband, though, St. Monica was an attentive and devoted wife, obeying Patricius in everything except in matters of faith, where God won out.** Her meek behavior and her steadfastness in her faith began to have an effect on her husband. And in time, Patricius' temper cooled and he became more accepting of his wife's Christianity.

St. Monica prayed continuously for her husband's conversion, and finally, after 16 long years, Patricius was baptized in 370. One year later, he died, but St. Monica was content that she had done her job by making sure her husband was ready to go home to God.

**But she still had her son, St. Augustine, to worry about.** Her other two children, Navigus and Perpetua, had embraced Christianity, become baptized, and entered religious life. But St. Augustine had taken after his father and decided that a life of "wine, women and song" was more to his liking.

St. Monica didn't give up on him. She prayed even more than before. Finally, after 14 years, Augustine converted and turned to Christ. His mother was with him when he was baptized during the Easter celebration in the year 387 in Milan, Italy.

Having achieved her goal of bringing her son to God, St. Monica felt that her life's work was over. Returning home to Africa, she told St. Augustine, "Son, for mine own part I have no further delight in anything in this life. What I do here any longer, and to what end I am here, I know not, now that my hopes in this world are accomplished." Soon after, she died, and was buried in the port city of Ostia.

St. Monica is the patron saint of married women and mothers (particularly mothers of wayward children), and also of victims of domestic abuse.

— Elizabeth Johnson



## ¿le preocupa su cónyuge, sus hijos?

haga como Santa Mónica y rece y rece

**S**i hubiera un niño modelo para demostrar el poder de la oración, sería Santa Mónica, cuyo día celebramos el 27 de agosto. Con sus oraciones incesantes y el ejemplo inmaculado de vivir cristianamente, logró la conversión de su esposo, Patricio y de su hijo San Agustín, uno de los principales Doctos de la Iglesia.

Santa Mónica nace en el año 332 D.C. en Tagaste, en el norte de África. Sus padres eran cristianos y ella creció en una atmósfera de devoción y prácticas cristianas. Sin embargo, su vida se hizo más difícil después de casarse con un hombre que era pagano y nunca ocultó su desagrado por la fe cristiana. Patricio tenía un carácter muy violento y siempre acosaba a Santa Mónica por su fe. El se oponía a que se bautizara a sus tres hijos. Ella tuvo la oportunidad de educarlos en el cristianismo, y enseñarles cómo vivir una vida cristiana, exactamente al contrario del comportamiento de su marido, que incluía la infidelidad a sus votos matrimoniales.

Sin embargo, en lugar de acosar a su marido, Santa Mónica fue una esposa atenta y dedicada, que obedecía a su marido en todo, excepto en las cuestiones de la fe, en las que Dios siempre salía triunfador. Su comportamiento humilde y su perseverancia en la fe comenzó a afectar a su marido. Y con el transcurso de tiempo, el carácter de Patricio se calmó y él aceptó el cristianismo de su esposa.

Santa Mónica rezaba continuamente por la conversión de su marido, y finalmente, después de 16 largos años, Patricio fue bautizado en 370. Un año después murió, pero Santa Mónica estaba muy contenta por haber cumplido con su trabajo al haber asegurado que su esposo estaba listo para ir a casa, con Dios.

**Pero ella tenía su hijo, San Agustín, de quien preocuparse.**

Sus otros dos hijos, Navigus y Perpetua habían abrazado el cristianismo, recibido el bautizo e ingresado en la vida religiosa. Pero San Agustín se parecía a su padre y decidió que lo que él le gustaba era una vida de "música, mujeres y vino". Santa Mónica derramó muchas lágrimas por San Agustín y le rogaba que se alejara del pecado. Pero él ignoró sus lágrimas, ya que prefería su modo y no el de ella, inclusive dedicándose a las filosofías heréticas.

Pero Santa Mónica no se rindió. Rezaba más que nunca. Finalmente, después de 14 años, San Agustín se convirtió y se dedicó a Cristo. Su madre le acompañó cuando lo bautizaron durante la celebración de la Pascua, el año 387 en Milán, Italia.

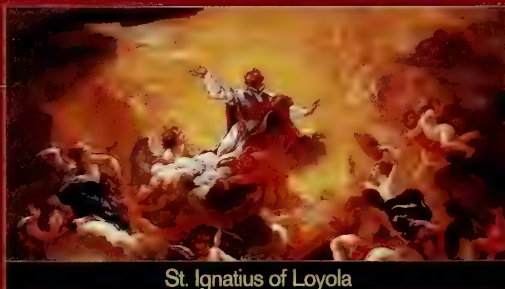
**Una vez que logró el objetivo de atraer a su hijo a Dios, Santa Mónica pensó que el trabajo de toda su vida había terminado.** De regreso en su hogar en África, le dijo a San Agustín, "Hijo, por lo que a mí respecta ya no tengo más placeres en esta vida. Lo que aquí yo haga, y con que fin estoy aquí, no lo sé, ahora que todas mis esperanzas en esta vida se han hecho realidad." Murió pronto después y la enterraron en el puerto de Ostia.

Santa Mónica es la santa patrona de las mujeres casadas y las madres (particularmente, las madres de hijos discolos), así como las víctimas de abuso doméstico.

### This month in history – in what year ...

►► St. Ignatius of Loyola started a great tradition when he founded the Society of Jesus – the Jesuits – in Paris, France on **August 15, WHAT YEAR?**

French Ursuline nuns arrived in New Orleans and set up the first Catholic charitable



St. Ignatius of Loyola

institution in America on **August 6, WHAT YEAR?** The complex consisted of an orphanage, a girls' school, and a hospital.

Parents could sleep in a little later on the weekends as ABC began broadcasting Saturday morning children's shows on **August 19, WHAT YEAR?**

Answers: 1534, 1722, 1950



## Good News Triggers Good Memories

**R**ecently we received the news of the return of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary from Philadelphia to the Diocese of Raleigh. They had come in 1973 to staff the Cathedral School when I was the Rector of the Cathedral. They gave 20 years of dedicated ministry to the Diocese.

This news made me think about all the sisters I had known in my life. They played a prominent and lasting place in my heart and life. I feel confident that others have had this same experience.

I was taught at St. Monica School by the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Scranton. They taught also in the Black Catholic Schools in New Bern and Washington.

I had the privilege of being with the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary when I was pastor in New Bern.

Their influence reached far beyond the schools. Their students, as they matured and finished their higher education, became leaders in the community. This was also true in the other Catholic Schools taught by other Communities of Religious. Father JaVan Saxon and I are two priests who were taught by sisters and

became priests of the Diocese of Raleigh. Other men became priests in religious orders.

Some of the women who were taught by sisters became Religious in the Oblate Sisters of Providence of Baltimore; The Mercy Sisters of Belmont and the Sisters, Adorers of the Precious Blood.

As I look at African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization, many of the people who are very active and giving of their time and talent to our ministry were taught by women Religious.

Other women religious with whom I was associated also helped me mature in my understanding of priestly ministry. I am thinking particularly of the Sisters of St. Ursula of Rhinebeck, N.Y. I was with them as pastor of St. Mary in Wilmington.

Women religious still enrich the Church of Raleigh by serving as pastoral administrators, pastoral associates, directors of religious education and in more ways which we are still to fathom.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden

## La Asunción De La Virgen Maria

Señor Jesús:

Celebramos la Asunción de María a los cielos:  
No sólo recordamos que el Padre la ha amado siempre;  
Que la escogió, llenándola de todas las gracias necesarias,  
Y que la invitó a ser el primer tabernáculo del mundo.

Recordamos también que te hizo carne y te trajo al mundo,  
Que visitó a Isabel y te compartió con la humanidad,  
Que te defendió cuando naciste, huyendo a Egipto con José.  
Y te buscó con desespero cuando te perdiste en Jerusalén.

Recordamos su presencia intercesora en las bodas de Caná,  
Como salió a visitarte mientras anunciabas a la multitud,  
Pero su silencio se hizo amor caminando contigo a la cruz  
Y permaneciendo con los tuyos que vivieron Pentecostés.

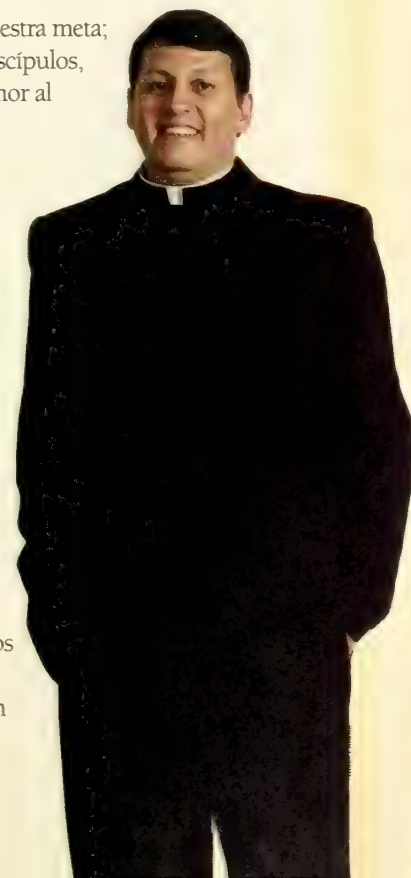
La Iglesia no solo recuerda esos momentos sino también  
Cuando María murió y la llevaste al cielo como vivió en la tierra:  
Llena de gracia, en cuerpo y alma, como sierva de Dios,  
Plena de amor y humildad por ser tu primera discípula.

Nuestra fe la contempla el cielo como nuestra meta;  
Su maternidad se extiende a todos tus discípulos,  
Porque encarnó la verdad y la dio con amor al mundo  
Para vivir en tu gloria con toda la Iglesia.

La Asunción nos permite ver a nuestra comunidad,  
Porque peregrina en un mundo sin fe en nuestro Señor,  
Porque sufre pobreza, opresión, explotación y esclavitud  
Y muchos comercian con la guerra, la tristeza y la enfermedad.

Nuestro dolor se debe a que dejamos de ser hermanos,  
Nos olvidamos de la meta de la vida de llegar a Dios  
Y hemos ignorado la dicha de ser tus hijos en la Iglesia.  
Te pedimos que la gloria de Dios brille en todos tus hijos.

Amén. — Padre Fernando Torres





Shutterstock.com



## He said She said what do they do?

**K**aren has been feeling down lately, and doesn't think she's getting much support from Kyle.

### I am so depressed

she says

**Karen says:** I am always feeling blue. I know we have everything we need and I'm grateful, but I just feel sad all the time. I try to talk to Kyle about it, but he seems to be impatient rather than supportive. I just don't know what to do – I want to be happy.

### Snap out of it

he says

**Kyle says:** Karen is right – she really doesn't have anything to be depressed about. We have two great kids, I make enough money to support us pretty well and we're both healthy. I feel bad for her, but she's dragging all of us down. Why can't she just snap out of it?

what do they do?

Jo Anne and I believe Karen and Kyle's situation is more pervasive and typical than any of us may know. Trying to find happiness in material possessions will always leave you with an

empty feeling, regardless of the amount accumulated.

There is an aphorism: "The best things in life are not things." Yet, we see married couples and families continue to accumulate more and more with the idea that having just this one more thing will make them happy and at peace. The fantasy dream some people have is that if only I could win the lottery or purchase

this one special thing, then life would be good and I would be happy! The truth is, there is never enough stuff to make anyone totally happy. St. Augustine once said, "A heart is restless until it rests in the Lord," meaning we will only find peace and happiness in our lives if we make God our focus. From this brief description, we see material wealth, but fail to see any accumulation of spiritual wealth.

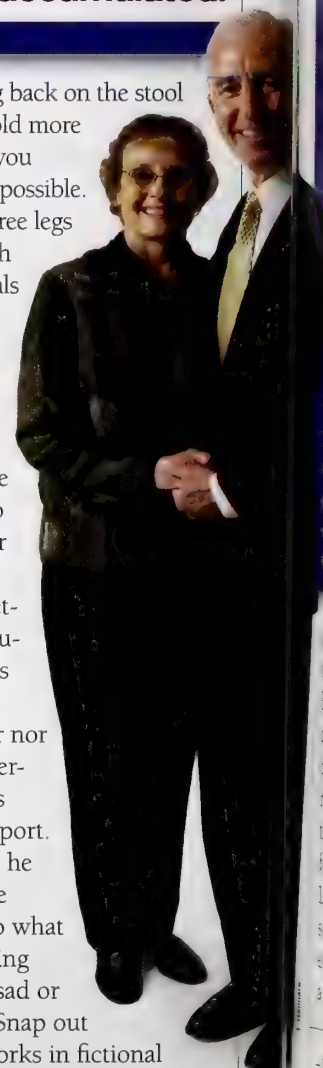
We see Kyle and Karen approaching their dilemma using a practical, common-sense approach, but we don't see them making what author Robert Kinast would describe as "faith-sense" out of the situation. Unless and until Kyle and Karen can discover God's hand at work in their lives, they will never be close to being happy or satisfied. When a couple begin to make faith-sense out of life's ordinary situations and events, that is when their restless hearts will become satisfied. It is amazing that when we start seeing God's hand working in our daily lives, the

weight on our shoulders lessens because we can see the hand of God taking part of the load. It is then that we discover new freedom from life's excessive and oppressive burdens. If Kyle and Karen could picture a three-legged stool – where one leg is Kyle, a second one is Karen and the third one is Christ – the description becomes clearer. If you remove the Christ leg, the stool would not support any weight. It would be out of balance and would collapse. Put

**Trying to find happiness in material possessions will always leave you with an empty feeling regardless of the amount accumulated.**

the Christ leg back on the stool and it will hold more weight than you would think possible. It takes all three legs to get through life's daily trials and tribulations.

On another level, we see a need for Kyle and Karen to practice their communication skills better. In particular, it appears Kyle is not a good listener nor does he understand Karen's need for support. Additionally, he appears to be insensitive to what may be causing Karen to be sad or depressed. "Snap out of it" only works in fictional





## The budget

### tips for prudent stewardship

**W**hether it's in your wallet, it's nearly always on your mind. Money — and how to manage it — is a topic many of us wrestle with daily. *FAITH* turned to Ted Zale, a veteran financial adviser for Morgan Stanley and a member of Lansing's St. Gerard Parish, for some practical pocketbook advice. Here's a tip that can help you today:

► **The budget:** This step of financial management isn't glamorous, but it is crucial. You need a plan — and it's not going to create itself. Sit down with your spouse, roll up your sleeves and start scribbling down your monthly expenses and your income. It's called a (insert groan here) budget and it's critical to managing your money on a daily basis. The sooner couples have defined their needs and wants and settled on a common strategy, the better, Zale says. "The first thing you have to do is get an agreement between spouses," he said. "One might say, 'I like that HD television and I'm gonna



buy it.' The other will say, 'Wait a minute, we don't have that budgeted.' We end up trying to act as a referee and trying to get them to narrow down on their goals." One tip: Don't leave fun out of the plan. Even if things are tight, we all need a break now and then. Dinner. A movie. Dessert. If there's a simple way to generate smiles and maintain sanity, make sure it's in the budget.

movies! Karen may need to get professional help to determine if there are treatment options for her. From our own experience, Jo Anne and I can attest that sadness and depression come in many different sizes, shapes, forms and degrees. What has worked for us is to spend an extra amount of time with each other talking about the past and the future so we can know how to handle the present. Listening intently with several breaks in the conversation to allow for feedback is critical. This is not an easy task, but it is a crucial task if we are striving for a healthy, long-term marriage relationship.

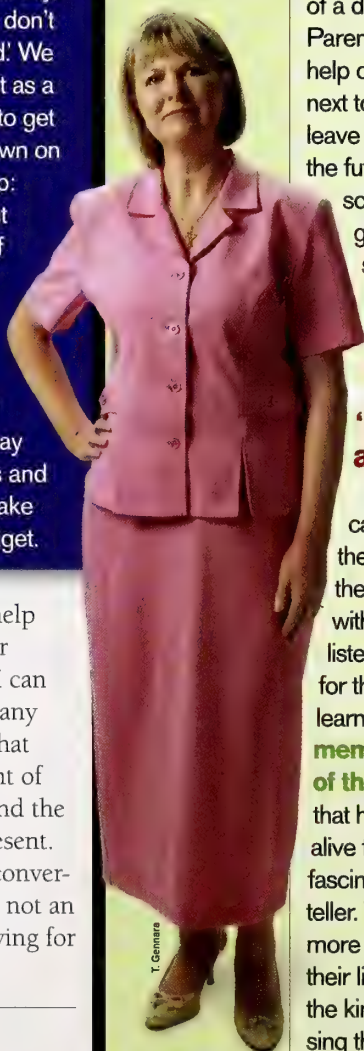
— Tom and JoAnne Fogle

## Preserve your family history

### While your family is still around



There are so many stories that haven't been heard that will make history and faith come alive for later generations.



**I**n the 1930s, teens would turn the radio dial to NBC and make up steps when *Let's Dance* aired. They thronged to the Palomar Ballroom in Los Angeles to hear Benny Goodman. In 1938, the "King of Swing" played Carnegie Hall! But these dancers weren't carefree, and life wasn't as prosperous as their parents had envisioned it would be when they were born.

### Parenting: Always a journey into the unknown

When the Great War ended, parents didn't know it would eventually be called World War I. They envisioned a long period of peace. As families were blessed with children in the 1920s, few anticipated that each year crept closer toward the Wall Street crash. Yet World War II and the Depression shaped the lives their children would lead. The economic disaster built a generation's sense of identity; children learned the value of a dollar and strong intergenerational bonds were forged. Parents longed to provide more, and youth were determined to help out. Adolescents listened as Martha Tilton's voice soared next to Goodman's clarinet, "We kiss, and the angels sing and leave their music ringing in my heart." They were poised for the future: Finding love and wondering if dreams for work and school could be fulfilled. To their parents, the future looked grim. Having been through the "war to end all wars," they sought comfort in prayer: "Do not be afraid, little flock." (Luke 12:32) Parents couldn't guarantee children rosy futures. Instead, they helped children grow in relationship with God, who would always be there for them.

### 'He will call upon me, and I will answer him' (Psalm 91:15)

Young adults of the World War II era answered the call of their nation. Many looked beyond themselves for the strength to endure. The depth of their faith was evident then and can still be seen among today's elderly. To deal with uncertainty and fear, they called upon the Lord and listened for God's answers. Today's youth are making plans for their futures in the shadow of global unrest, too. They can learn from the past. **Encourage them to ask older family members to pull out old photos and to share stories of the Depression and the war.** There are so many stories that haven't been heard that will make history and faith come alive for later generations. **Visits with older relatives** can be fascinating when the family comes eager to listen to a storyteller. **Write down the stories** and make family collections. As more members of the "Greatest Generation" reach the end of their lives, a song from their youth resonates the joy of the life of the kingdom of God: "We meet, and the angels sing, the angels sing the sweetest song I ever heard ..." — Dr. Cathleen McGreal





# “God Journeys With Us”

The Diocese of Raleigh welcomes the return  
of the Immaculata IHM Sisters





On a Wednesday in mid-July, a U-Haul truck outside the former rectory at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Raleigh signaled the return to the Diocese of five women Religious from a Congregation that previously served in the Diocese from 1977-1996: the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) of Immaculata, PA.

The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, had announced the return of the order in the spring. "Our sisters, who missioned in North Carolina, had a wonderful experience and our community is excited about coming back," said Sister Lorraine McGrew, General Superior of the Congregation.

The IHM Order was founded by a young Redemptorist missionary priest, Father Louis Florant Gillet, in Monroe, Mich. in 1845. In 1858, as the congregation grew in size and renown, it was invited by Bishop (and later Saint John Neumann) to serve in the Diocese of Philadelphia; and in 1871, a new foundation was established in the newly formed Diocese of Scranton, Penn.

The five women religious who arrived in July are Sister Rose Marie Adams, Sister Laura Teresa Downing, Sister Mary Margaret Filan, Sister Helene Therese McGroarty and Sister Mary Agnes Ryan. NC Catholics interviewed them just prior to their arrival in Raleigh.





## Sister Rose Marie Adams

Sister Rose is serving as Director of Evangelization and Catechesis for the Diocese of Raleigh. She is from Northeast Philadelphia, and is the oldest of seven children. In 1965, her music director at Little Flower High School invited her to become a Sister, Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. After discernment and prayer, she

entered the community. "In 1975," Sister says, "to my great joy, my natural sister Margie also entered the IHM sisters. Today she is principal of an elementary grade school outside Philadelphia."

Sister Rose feels very blessed and grateful to have taught in elementary schools for 20 years in grades one, four, seven and eight. For the next 10 years she was principal of a grade school in Pennel, Penn. and then in Virginia Beach, Va. She held the position of director of religious education for three years, and worked for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in the area of adult faith formation during the next seven years.

Sister Rose is also a certified spiritual director and enjoys giving retreats and workshops and assisting people in experiencing and deepening their faith and love of God. "One of the high points of ministry for me," she says, "has been preparing children to receive the sacraments of penance, holy Eucharist and confirmation. These sacraments not only brought the children closer to Jesus, but also inspired whole families to appreciate and grow in their faith."

Recalling the sister who invited her to join the IHMs, Sister Rose hopes as she ministers in Raleigh to invite many young women to consider a vocation to the religious life and to the IHMs. Sister brings the conviction to her new ministry that all people are loved by God, and that we can all radiate the face of Jesus Christ in our every day work, family and Church: "I deeply believe in the spirituality of everyday life, meaning that all life is holy."

## Sister Laura Teresa Downing

Sister Laura will be teaching freshman and sophomore theology at Cardinal Gibbons High School.

Sister grew up in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, D.C., in what she calls "a typical Irish Catholic family. Our family life revolved around family meals, Irish dance, soccer and parish events. I attended both



Catholic and public schools until enrolling at Immaculata College (University) where I earned a BA in theology and education. I recently completed a MA in religious studies – scripture at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in PA."

Sister says she did not have any serious thoughts of religious life until she began her first year of college. "At Immaculata, though, I was so taken by the sisters' joy and prayerfulness that I shortly found myself entertaining thoughts of a religious vocation." While a student, she visited the sisters' missions in South America. "It was such an awesome experience of service and community living that I knew that religious life and in particular the IHMs were right for me." Sister entered the community after her junior year. She is preparing to make her final vows in August 2009.

Since her profession, Sister Laura has taught middle school math and religion at St. Peter's Elementary School in Reading, Penn. and freshman and sophomore theology at Bishop O'Connell High School in Arlington, Va. "My only goal for my time at Cardinal Gibbons," Sister says, "is to lead my students to better know, truly love and to desire to serve Jesus. I am thrilled to be joining the faculty of Cardinal Gibbons and the other religious of the Diocese of Raleigh!"

## Sister Mary Margaret Filan

Sister Mary Margaret was born in East Orange, N.J., and raised in Virginia in a family of eight children.

"I felt the call to religious life in my heart when I was very young," she says. "I just knew that God was calling me. Of course, I joined the IHMs, who were my teachers. They attracted me by their prayerfulness, joyful spirit, creative hope and loving service (which I now recognize as our 'charism', but I didn't know it then). I was also drawn to our South American missions, a vocation within a vocation for me."

Sister has taught elementary and secondary students and done Pastoral Ministry in both the U.S. and in Peru and Chile. In Raleigh, she will minister at St. Bernadette Church in Fuquay-Varina.

"My goal at St. Bernadette," Sister says, "is to work together with the parishioners to deepen consciousness about the Mass, the treasure of our faith; and the importance of spending time adoring Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. I will also help with adult faith formation and share my keyboard talent with the Hispanic choirs."

Asked about the convictions she brings to ministry, she does not hesitate. "I believe that we are in God's hands; this is His work. He is the vine and we are the branches.

"Jesus is present for us until the end of time in the Eucharist; He guides us by His Word.

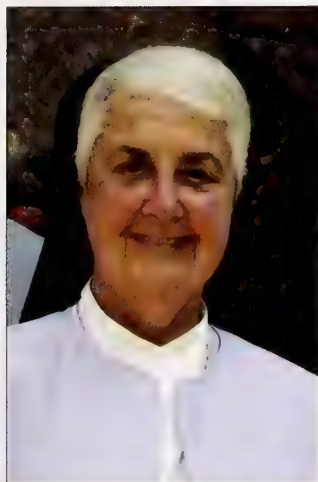
"We form the Body of Christ, offering our talents to serve Christ and each other. Each person has gifts and also untapped





potential for good. And God continues calling men and women to His ministry."

Finally, "Faith formation is of utmost importance for the future of our families, church and country."



### Sister Helene Therese Mc Groarty

"I am a proud daughter of Tamaqua, a small mining town in the heart of the coal mining region of Pennsylvania," Sister Helene says. "The seeds of my religious vocation were nourished, first of all, by the example and deep faith of my parents and extended family. Through many sacrifices of our Catholic community, I attended Catholic grammar

school and high school.

"The joyful service of the IHM sisters in these formative years allowed those seeds to blossom into a religious vocation. I felt called in my heart to be a missionary and discovered that as an IHM I could be teacher and missionary."

Sister Helene has served in the U.S. as teacher and pastoral minister, and ministered for 30 years in Peru and Chile.

"My missionary experiences of the past have taught me that God journeys with us," Sister Helene says. Sister is assigned to St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Cary, "where, in conjunction with Msgr. O'Connor, we are looking into the various ways in which I can be of service to the parish community."

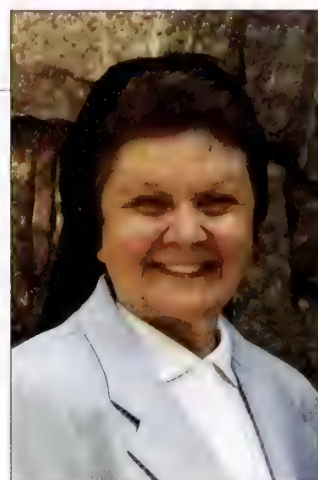
### Sister Mary Agnes Ryan

Sister Mary Agnes is assisting Father John Forbes as a pastoral associate at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. Born in Deadwood, S.D., she moved to the suburbs of Philadelphia at age five. She is the oldest of three children. Two of her uncles were priests and several older cousins who were religious sisters. "All of this," she says, "along with my parents' Irish Catholic home environment, nourished my vocation."

Sister taught in parish elementary schools for 17 years and was a parish director of religious education for 12 years in three different parishes in the suburbs of Philadelphia. She then served for seven years as Diocesan director of elementary religious education for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Most recently she was on the staff of the IHM Ministry Center as the director of religious education.

Asked to name the high point of her years as a sister, she said, "Each mission had one! Wherever the Lord has called, I have gone and He has blessed me.

"Now, after 40 years of involvement in religious education, sacramental preparation, faculty retreats and services / workshops / courses, I feel God is inviting me to move into a more pastoral dimension of ministry. I look forward to whatever will be part of my Raleigh mission experience."



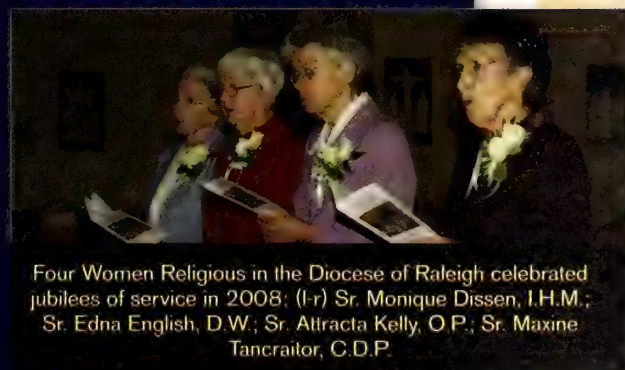
►► **Members of each of the following Congregations, 49 Women Religious in all, are presently serving in the Diocese of Raleigh.** The "Where We Are" page on the web site of the Raleigh Council of Religious (<http://www.raleighcouncilofreligious.net/>) will show you the places and cities where they are currently serving the Church of Raleigh.

- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Agnes [www.csasisters.org](http://www.csasisters.org)
- Congregation of the Sisters of St. Louis
- Daughters of St. Mary of Guadalupe
- Daughters of Wisdom [www.daughtersofwisdom.org](http://www.daughtersofwisdom.org)
- Dominican Congregation of Saint Catherine DeRicci [www.elkinsparkop.org](http://www.elkinsparkop.org)
- Dominicans of the Most Holy Rosary of Adrian, Michigan [www.adriansisters.org](http://www.adriansisters.org)

- Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart [www.missionhelpers.org](http://www.missionhelpers.org)
- Sisters of Divine Providence [www.sistersofprovidence.org](http://www.sistersofprovidence.org)
- Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia [www.osfphila.org](http://www.osfphila.org)
- Sisters of Saint Francis of Sylvania, Ohio [www.sistersosf.org](http://www.sistersosf.org)
- Sisters of St. Joseph
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Chestnut Hill [www.ssjsphila.org](http://www.ssjsphila.org)
- Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Mark [www.csjsl.org](http://www.csjsl.org)
- Sisters of the Holy Cross [www.cscsisters.org](http://www.cscsisters.org)
- Sisters of the Holy Name of Jesus and Mary [www.holynames.net](http://www.holynames.net)
- Sisters of Mercy [www.sistersofmercy.org](http://www.sistersofmercy.org)
- Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio [www.sndchardon.org](http://www.sndchardon.org)
- Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Monroe, Michigan

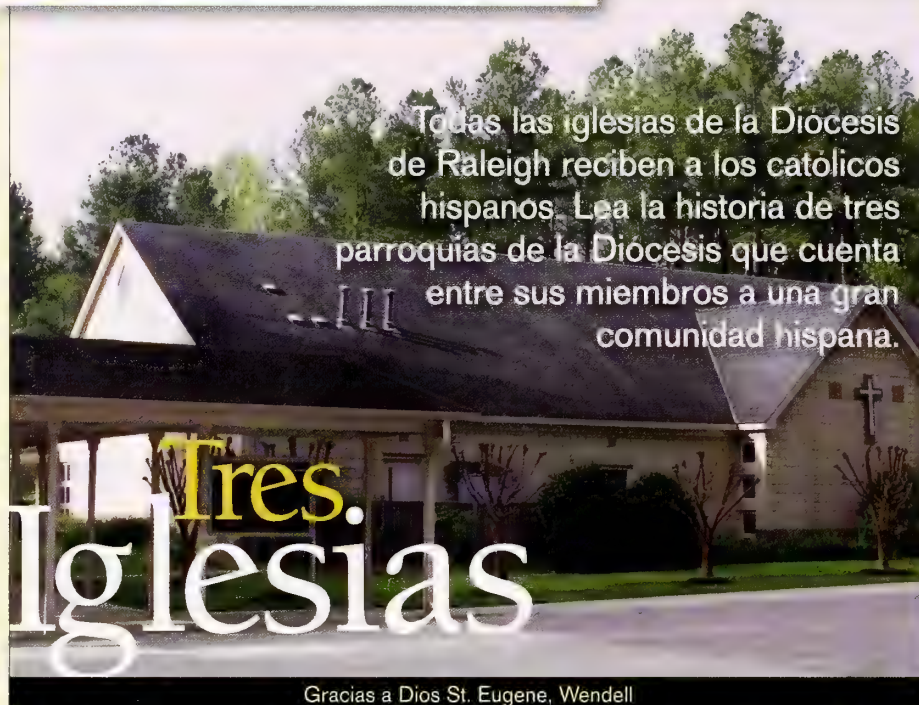
### [www.ihmsisters.org](http://www.ihmsisters.org)

- Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Scranton, Pennsylvania [hm.marywood.edu](http://hm.marywood.edu)
- Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Immaculata, Pennsylvania [www.ihmimmaculata.org](http://www.ihmimmaculata.org)
- Society of Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)
- Society of St. Ursula [www.societyofstursula.org](http://www.societyofstursula.org)



Four Women Religious in the Diocese of Raleigh celebrated jubilees of service in 2008: (l-r) Sr. Monique Dissen, I.H.M.; Sr. Edna English, D.W.; Sr. Attracta Kelly, O.P.; Sr. Maxine Tancraitor, C.D.P.





Todas las iglesias de la Diócesis de Raleigh reciben a los católicos hispanos. Lea la historia de tres parroquias de la Diócesis que cuenta entre sus miembros a una gran comunidad hispana.

# Tres Iglesias

Gracias a Dios St. Eugene, Wendell

**A** En los archivos del periódico de NC Catholic, encontramos una historia escrita por el Monseñor Frederick Koch en 1973, sobre la parroquia de St. Eugene en Wendell, en conmemoración del 25 aniversario de la misma. El Monseñor Koch escribió detalladamente acerca de las familias inmigrantes del Líbano, quienes dieron toda su energía, recursos y viviendas a la creciente congregación del siglo XX. Además hace regencia a los sacerdotes encargados del periódico diocesano, de capellanes en NC State University, al canciller diocesano, el director de los Servicios Sociales Católicos y al misionero que servía en St Eugene.

Después de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, con la nueva redistribución de la población y el incremento en el sector de la construcción, la Diócesis autorizó la construcción de una iglesia permanente la cual fue dedicada en 1948 por el Padre Koch. En su aniversario, el Padre Koch compartió con nosotros algunas historias de la iglesia rural de los años 50 y 60: -Recordamos con nostalgia aquellos picnic en Tarpley Mill, las cenas de los domingos en las reuniones de la Sociedad del Altar y la vez que el Padre Koch dejó una nota de préstamo en la caja de las ofrendas durante la vigilia para comprarse una hamburguesa porque no tenía dinero para comer, etc.

Este año, St. Eugene celebra su 60° ani-

versario en una iglesia mucho más grande dedicada en 1991. Desde el 2002, en la parroquia han trabajado congregaciones del Sagrado Corazón de María (CICM por sus siglas en inglés) y La Primera Orden de Religiosos Misionarios Internacionales fundada en Bélgica en 1862. El CICM en los Estados Unidos ha sido entrenado para la ferviente aceptación de los apostolados de los afroamericanos y la población hispana de Wendell, lugar en el cual, la población hispana aumentó considerablemente en los últimos 10 años de un 5% a un 60% de acuerdo a cifras del párroco Joseph Lapauw. Hoy en día St. Eugene celebra 6 Misas durante los fines de semana, tres en inglés y tres en español.

-Cuando el pueblo viene aquí, se dan cuenta de inmediato que ésta es una parroquia bilingüe y que todos somos iguales —explica el Padre Lapauw. —El boletín informativo de los domingos es bilingüe y el consejo de la parroquia y todos los ministros tienen miembros de ambos grupos.

Sin embargo, ajustar la estructura de ésta parroquia de acuerdo a las realidades de ambos grupos es un verdadero reto. St Eugene realiza muchos eventos al año, quizás uno de los más reconocidos es el Festival Culinario Internacional que se realiza en septiembre de cada año y ya comienza a atraer a personas de diferentes culturas de toda el área.

Los planes a futuro de la parroquia incluyen una extensión del edificio principal para educación religiosa y la construcción de una nueva iglesia. El Padre Lapauw describe la dinámica de la parroquia en las siguientes palabras: -Gracias a Dios, ésta es una comunidad agradecida receptiva al cambio.



## Una comunidad de dos St. Julia, Siler City

Quizás, alguna haya visto a St Julia por la autopista 64 en las proximidades de Siler City puesto que es una de las iglesias más características en nuestra Diócesis. Su arquitectura y su estructura de adobe en la cima de una colina, da la sensación como que si la hubiesen traído de Nuevo México o de Arizona. St. Julia es una comunidad católica muy particular debido a que un 75% de sus miembros son hispanos. Los domingos disponen de dos Misas en español y una en inglés y la Misa de los sábados es bilingüe; así como muchas iglesias de la diócesis, St Julia es el resultado de la inmigración hispana a Carolina del Norte desde 1988.

A partir 1953, la presencia católica ha sido constante en Siler City, desde



que el Padre Paul Byron celebró la Misa en casa de la señora Charlie Ellis, una devota Bautista. La misión de St. Julia fue consagrada en 1961 y en 20 años la congregación aumentó de 8 a un total de 35 familias. En 1990, la Hermana Anita Gutiérrez, fue nombrada administradora parroquial, relevando al Padre franciscano Daniel Quackenbush, párroco fundador de St. Julia. En 1999, St. Julia se convirtió en una parroquia de 300 personas quienes atendían Misa los domingos, mientras que celebraciones como la de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe colman el lugar con 700 personas en un espacio de 125 puestos.

En vista de la necesidad de un nuevo lugar, St. Julia recibió 4 hectáreas de terreno por parte de Walter y Agnes Bunton; además, la diócesis de Raleigh les otorgó un préstamo sin interés de \$240,000, mientras que lo parroquianos realizaban donativos y otros vendían tacos y tamales después de la Misa para ayuda con la causa. El Obispo F Joseph Gossman consagró a la nueva sede el 9 de diciembre del 2001.

El Padre James Fukes, párroco de la iglesia de St. Julia por casi un año, describe a los parroquianos como –generosos –En realidad hay dos comunidades en ésta parroquia: los miembros fundadores, la comunidad anglo, la cual es muy receptiva hacia los nuevos miembros y a la creciente comunidad latina quienes siempre están dispuestos a contribuir.

Los miembros de ambos grupos participan con gran entusiasmo en las actividades que ofrecen los ministerios de la parroquia. En muchos de los casos, la única diferencia entre las comunidades es el factor económico. Una gran parte de los hispanos son indocumentados, trabajan por largas horas y reciben un sueldo muy bajo (muchos de ellos trabajan en los criaderos de aves cercanos) son maltratados y no cuentan con los derechos básicos de los trabajadores. Una de las intenciones del párroco es la de velar por la justicia de esos trabajadores.

Es evidente que la parroquia cuenta con una cultura muy diversa. El Padre Jim disfruta de los bautizos, de las Misas de Quinceañeras y de las bodas porque siente la energía proveniente de ambas comunidades, y siempre trabaja por lograr su integración –uno de los retos es de

hacer de ésta una sola comunidad y eso toma tiempo –explica.



### **Mision cumplida Santa Clara, Magnolia**

El domingo 29 de junio, el Obispo Michael F Burbidge dedicó la nueva iglesia de la parroquia de Santa Clara en Magnolia, Carolina del Norte. La nueva iglesia reemplaza al remolque que sirvió de iglesia desde que comenzó como misión en la Inmaculada Concepción en los años 90.

El Monseñor Williams, párroco de la Inmaculada Concepción de aquel entonces, se dio cuenta de un grupo de católicos hispanos a 17 millas de Clinton, en un área de remolques llamado Hidden Valley Plantation. –Comenzamos con misas en el campo, frente a las casas –dijo el Monseñor Williams. Luego él habló con el Monseñor Nash Jonson, asistente de la Iglesia de la Inmaculada Concepción y junto con su padre, son los mayores productores de pavos/aves en el estado, y emplean a muchos mexicanos que viven en los remolques de la zona. El señor Jonson ofreció uno de sus remolques de su empresa para servir como iglesia. El Monseñor recuerda –Nash no era católico, pero le agradaban mucho los trabajadores mexicanos y sentía gran admiración por esa vida familiar. –Así solía ser nuestra vida familiar, cuando nuestra casa se convertía en la casa de todos –agregó Nash.

Con el paso del tiempo, la comunidad católica continuó creciendo y muchos de los líderes recibieron al Espíritu Santo gracias a sus experiencias con el cursillo. En 1999 el Padre Patrick Keane, actual párroco de la parroquia de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en Newton Grove, era seminarista y recuerda su experiencia en Hidden Valley. –A diario, manejaba largas

distancias; esa misión rural requería de mucho trabajo y esfuerzo.

Otra ayudante de la misión fue la Hermana Ancilla Maloney, del Bronx de Nueva York, y por cuatro semanas, venía con un grupo de estudiantes bilingües de secundaria para brindar estudios bíblicos en los condados de Sampson y Duplin durante el verano. En 1998, el Padre José Antonio Gálvez procedente de el Salvador, sugirió el cambio de nombre de la misión de Hidden Valley o Magnolia a Santa Clara de Asís una de las primeras seguidoras de San Francisco de Asís.

Las Hermanas de la Divina Providencia, Theresine Gildea y Maxine Tancraitor, comenzaron a entrenar a catequistas y a preparar a los niños para recibir sus sacramentos, mientras conseguían ayuda material y espiritual para las nuevas familias inmigrantes.

En el 2003, se comenzó a recolectar dinero para la construcción de una iglesia con la ayuda de los parroquianos, quienes colocaron puestos de comida, organizaron partidos de fútbol y ferias. Además, gracias a un generoso donativo de la Diócesis de los Caballeros de Colón más otros benefactores de diferentes lugares incluso de California y las Bahamas, los parroquianos de Santa Clara recolectaron lo suficiente para comenzar la construcción. En el 2004, la hermana de Nash Johnson donó 4 hectáreas de terreno en el pueblo de Magnolia para construir la iglesia. Con ayuda del Padre Philip Tighe, párroco de la Inmaculada Concepción, mas un equipo de trabajadores armados con sierras y machetes comenzaron a limpiar el terreno para determinar las dimensiones de la iglesia. En el 2007, el Padre Tighe fue sucedido por el Padre Fernando Torres.

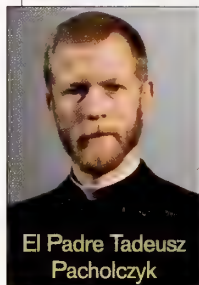
Santa Clara ha sido la segunda iglesia de la Diócesis dedicada por el Obispo Burbidge, quien además dedicó la Iglesia de Holy Cross en Durham en diciembre. Otros sacerdotes quienes también asistieron en Santa Clara fueron los padres Bill Upah, William Restrepo y Luís Alberto Domicó. Santa Clara pasará a formar parte de la misión de la Inmaculada Concepción a la misión de Maria Reina de las Américas en Mt Olive con la supervisión del párroco Edgar Sepúlveda.



# Querido lector de NCC

Por: Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

## Querido lector: ¿Se sienten culpables los católicos al imponer sus creencias a otros?



El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

— El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk hizo su doctorado en neurociencias en la Universidad de Yale y su trabajo post-doctoral en la Universidad de Harvard. Es Sacerdote para la Diócesis de Fall River, MA, y se desempeña como Director de Educación en el Centro Nacional Católico de Bioética en Philadelphia. The National Catholic Bioethics Center: [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)

Muchos temas candentes se están debatiendo actualmente en nuestras legislaturas, temas de enorme importancia ética y bioética y que van desde la anticoncepción de emergencia hasta el matrimonio homosexual. Estos debates tienen mucho que ver con el futuro de nuestra sociedad. Los legisladores enfrentan una atemorizante tarea de tomar decisiones sobre lo que debe o no debe permitir la ley dentro de una sociedad sensata. Recientemente me invitaron a participar en una audiencia legislativa en Virginia, E.U. sobre la investigación con células madre embrionarias. Después que terminé mi testimonio, uno de los senadores me dirigió una pregunta. “Padre Tad, ¿no se da cuenta de que, cuando argumenta contra la investigación con células madre embrionarias, está tratando de imponer sus creencias sobre los demás, y de que nosotros como legisladores electos debemos evitar imponer un estrecho punto de vista religioso sobre el resto de la sociedad?”. La pregunta del Senador es una muestra del pensamiento mal enfocado que se ha convertido en lugar común desde hace unos años dentro de muchas legislaturas estatales y entre muchos de quienes elaboran las leyes.

Encontramos dos grandes errores en la pregunta del Senador. Primero, él no logra reconocer el hecho de que la ley es, fundamentalmente, la imposición de un punto de vista de alguien sobre los demás. Se trata, efectivamente, de una imposición. La naturaleza propia de la ley es imponer perspectivas particulares sobre personas que no quieren que se les impongan dichas perspectivas. Los ladrones de autos no quieren que se les impongan leyes que les prohíban robarlos. Los traficantes de drogas no quieren que se les impongan leyes que hacen ilegal la venta de drogas. Sin embargo, nuestros legisladores se eligen siempre, precisamente, para que elaboren dichas leyes y las impongan. Así que la pregunta no es sobre si se impone o no algo a las personas. La

pregunta es, más bien, si lo que se va a imponer es razonable, justo y bueno para la sociedad y para quienes la integramos.

El segundo error de lógica del senador es suponer que dado que la religión mantiene una perspectiva particular eso implica que dicha perspectiva nunca debe ser tomada en cuenta o nunca llegar a ser convertida en ley. La religión enseña muy claramente que robar

es inmoral. ¿Será entonces que si yo apoyo leyes en contra de robar estoy imponiendo sobre la sociedad mi estrecho punto de vista religioso? Obviamente no. Por el contrario, el tema del robo es tan importante para el orden de una sociedad que la religión también se siente obligada a hablar al respecto. La religión enseña muchas cosas que son entendidas como verdaderas aun por personas que no son religiosas en lo absoluto. Tanto ateos como católicos comprenden perfectamente que robar está mal y, si son vecinos, tanto unos como otros se molestan igual si alguien entra a sus casas a robar. Lo importante no es si la ley que se está proponiendo la enseña una religión o no sino si dicha ley es justa, correcta y buena para la sociedad y sus integrantes.

Para ser más coherente, por supuesto, el senador debió haber optado por hacer referencia a la substancia de mi testimonio en lugar de hablar de imposición de perspectivas religiosas. El argumento que yo expuse, curiosamente, no derivaba de ningún dogma religioso en lo absoluto. Derivaba más bien de un importante dogma científico, a saber, que todos los humanos procedemos de humanos embrionarios. El declarar que yo fui en algún momento un embrión es declarar sobre un tema de embriología, no de teología. Dado que todos los humanos fuimos embriones en un momento dado, se hace evidente por qué la investigación que destruye embriones es una actividad inmoral. Explotar a los débiles y a los que aún no nacen con el fin de satisfacer los intereses de los poderosos y de los bien parados no debe ser permitido en una sociedad civilizada. Este argumento es claro para ateos también, no sólo para católicos.

Durante mi testimonio, hice notar cómo en Estados Unidos hemos fortalecido leyes federales para, por ejemplo, proteger no sólo al águila calva, nuestra ave nacional, sino también a sus huevos. Si llegásemos a estar cerca de un nido de esas aves y destruyésemos sus huevos, estaríamos cometiendo un delito. A fuerza de la ley, reconocemos que el huevo del águila calva, es decir, el águila en embrión dentro de ese huevo, es la misma criatura que aquella gloriosa ave que vemos volar en las alturas. Es por eso que

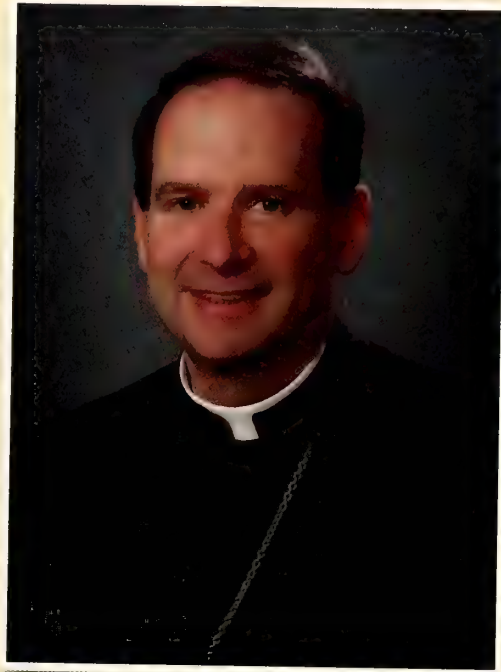


aprobamos leyes que protegen no sólo al adulto sino también al más pequeño miembro de esa especie. No se trata de un asunto religioso en lo absoluto. Las personas ateas también reconocen que los huevos de un águila deben ser protegidos. Lo problemático está en cómo si somos capaces de entender la importancia de proteger el estado más temprano de una vida animal pero, cuando se trata de la vida humana, sufrimos de una desconexión mental. Nuestro juicio moral se hace vago e impreciso cuando intentamos hacer cosas que no están bien, como por ejemplo, realizar abortos o destruir seres humanos en embrión para obtener sus células madre.

Así es que, cuando nos topemos con un legislador que intenta insinuar que un argumento en defensa de una moral sólida no es más que la imposición de un punto de vista religioso, necesitamos poner más atención para captar realmente lo que tenemos enfrente. Puede ser que ese legislador no esté tan preocupado por evitar la imposición de una perspectiva particular sobre los demás. Lo más probable es que esté intentando imponer su propio punto de vista, un punto de vista mucho menos sostenible y defendible en términos de un pensamiento moral sólido. Lo que busca, por lo tanto, es hacer corto-circuito en el debate poniendo el énfasis en una animosidad religiosa y en la imposición, sin siquiera enfrentar el argumento ético o bioético substancial. Una vez que la baraja de la imposición religiosa se ha puesto en juego, y una vez que a los legisladores cristianos les tiemblan las rodillas cuando se trata de defender la vida y una moral firme, el oponente se siente libre para hacer su imposición y sin hacer gran esfuerzo por confrontar la esencia del debate moral en sí mismo.

## ¡Muchas gracias Hermanas!

**¡P**or 7 años de mi vida sacerdotal viví con 80 mujeres! Durante esos dichos años serví como Capellán en el hogar de las hermanas de la caridad y tuve el privilegio de celebrar la Misa de las 6:30 de la mañana todos los días en esa maravillosa capilla. Las hermanas fueron mi fuente de inspiración al verlas cada mañana cumplir con el servicio de la iglesia en los diferentes ministerios como el de salud, educación, servicio social, entre otros.



Mi apreciación y respeto hacia las religiosas comenzó a temprana edad mientras cursaba el primer grado en la escuela. Las Hermanas Siervas del Inmaculado Corazón de María me educaron en colegio, en la secundaria e incluso en la universidad, puesto que ellas siempre han sido reconocidas por su profundo compromiso en la educación Católica. El día de mi ordenación como Obispo de Raleigh, me sentí muy orgulloso de contar con la presencia de las Hermanas que influenciaron considerablemente mi vida de sacerdote. Además, una de las Hermanas es la tía de un buen amigo sacerdote y es un honor para mí referirme a ella de la misma manera "tía."

Es una dicha para mí recibir a las Hermanas Siervas del Inmaculado Corazón de María en la Diócesis de Raleigh. La Diócesis recuerda con cariño a la congregación que sirvió en la escuela de la Catedral durante los años 1970 y 1980. El año pasado, hablé con el Superior General para mencionarle el gran potencial de vocaciones y las incontables oportunidades para las Religiosas; le pedí que considerara asignar a alguna de las hermanas a la Diócesis de Raleigh y cinco hermanas fueron asignadas

en las áreas de Catecismo y evangelización, educación católica, trabajo social y en el ministerio hispano. Estoy muy agradecido con la Congregación por enviar a cinco dedicadas y entusiastas Hermanas porque sé que serán una gran bendición para el pueblo y para nuestra Diócesis. También quisiera extender mi agradecimiento al Padre Forbes y a los feligreses de Our Lady of Lourdes por brindarles un hogar y tan calurosa bienvenida a las Hermanas.

Además, aprovecho ésta maravillosa oportunidad para expresar mi agradecimiento en nombre de la Diócesis a todas las Hermanas de nuestra comunidad y a sus congregaciones por brindarnos su apoyo. Siento gran admiración e inspiración por su incondicional servicio por el Señor y por Su pueblo. Oremos por la gran labor que realizan y para las mujeres de la Diócesis de Raleigh escuchen el llamado del Señor y así dediquen sus vidas al servicio de la Iglesia como devotas religiosas, manteniendo siempre la promesa de humildad, castidad y obediencia. ¡María, madre de la iglesia, ora por nosotros!

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh



# *“Follow me”*

## Help Us Build Up The Church

**W**e are the **Knights of Columbus**, 1.75 million men who support our Church by putting our faith into action.

We'd like you to join us in making Pope Benedict's vision of building a society of life and love a reality.

**L**ast year, Knights around the world –men just like you–rolled up their sleeves and contributed more than 68 million hours of volunteer service to charitable causes.

There's no better way to respond to Pope Benedict's call than to become an active member of the Knights of Columbus.

**I**nterested? Call or visit this web address today.

**[www.kofc.org/join](http://www.kofc.org/join)**

**1-800-307-7811**



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.







Above, left to right: Very Reverend David D. Brockman, Vicar General of Raleigh; Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh; Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland, Bishop of Savannah; Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory, Archbishop of Atlanta; Most Reverend John F. Donoghue, Archbishop Emeritus of Atlanta; Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte; Reverend Robert M. Hussey, S.J., Pastoral Administrator of Holy Cross Parish, Durham.

## Diocese Hosts Bishops of Atlanta Province

►► Five Bishops of the Atlanta Province of the Catholic Church in the U.S. held their annual meeting in Durham, June 23-25, to discuss pastoral issues relating to the Province.

The Atlanta Province comprises the states of Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina, and contains five Episcopal Sees. Attending the meeting were the Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory, Archbishop of Atlanta; the Most Reverend John F. Donoghue, Archbishop Emeritus of Atlanta (and Bishop of Charlotte from 1984-1993); the Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland, Bishop of Savannah; the Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte; and the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh.

On Tuesday, June 24, the Bishops, along with the Very Reverend David D. Brockman, Vicar General of Raleigh, and Reverend Robert M. Hussey, S.J., Pastoral Administrator of Holy Cross Parish, concelebrated Mass at Holy Cross Church in Durham, with Archbishop Gregory as Principal Celebrant and Homilist.

## North Carolina Dioceses Hold Annual Black Catholic Conference

►► The Catholic Diocese of Raleigh hosted the 2008 North Carolina Black Catholic Conference June 27-29 at the Sheraton Capital Center in Raleigh. Themed "Celebrating & Proclaiming Our Catholic Faith," the conference drew more than 200 registrants, with some 350 people attending the closing Mass. The purpose of the annual event is to provide a means of "collaboration to promote and accomplish on a local level the goals set by the National Black Catholic Congress."

The assembly began with a Youth Retreat Day for ages 8-18 on June 27. Opening Mass was celebrated by the Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte, on Friday evening. In his homily, Bishop Jugis spoke of St. Paul, who proclaimed the faith as today's faithful are called to do. Why proclaim our faith? "Because Jesus asked us," the Bishop explained, "and because the world needs it." Our proclamation begins, the Bishop continued, with the Eucharist, the true presence which motivates us to make Christ present in the world.

The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of the Diocese of Raleigh, was the Principal Concelebrant at Friday's Mass, and welcomed those in attendance on behalf of the host Diocese.

Father Jim Goode, O.F.M., founder and president of National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life, was the keynote speaker on Saturday morning. He addressed the role of the black community in defending the sacredness of human life. Workshops on Saturday addressed topics such as social justice, the spiritual growth of black Catholics, the continuing struggle and efforts to combat HIV/AIDS, evangelization, Catholic education, and awareness of issues facing struggling nations in Africa. A youth workshop focused on enhancing communication between parents and teenagers.

Participants were treated to a slide presentation by Msgr. Thomas Hadden, Vicar for African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization in the Diocese of Raleigh, which looked back on some faces and places which exemplified black Catholic Ministry.

The convention concluded Sunday morning with a 9:30 AM Mass celebrated by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge. In his homily, Bishop Burbidge noted that the weekend of June 28-29 began the "Year of Saint Paul," proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI one year ago. Bishop Burbidge noted the conversion Paul underwent from being a persecutor of Christians to giving up his life for Christ. "We pray that we may experience ongoing conversion; unite our sufferings to Christ crucified; and grow ever deeper in our communion with the Lord," the Bishop said, "most especially through the Eucharist and our commitment to build up the Body of Christ."



## PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE DECEASED PRIESTS DURING THE UPCOMING MONTHS

### JULY

Rev. Msgr. Peter M. Denges, 1985  
Most Rev. Leo Haid, O.S.B., 1924  
Rev. James A. Mobbs, 1993  
Rev. H. Charles Mulholland, 2001

Msgr. Francis J. Murphy, 1998  
Rev. James J. Noonan, M.S., 1985  
Rev. John G. Parish, 2007

### AUGUST

Rev. Henry J. Becker, 1992  
Rev. Thomas F. Carney, 1969  
Rev. William C. Frost, 1983  
Msgr. Felix R. Kelaher, 1998  
Rev. William Kuder, 1960

Msgr. Dennis A. Lynch, 1968  
William S. O'Byrne, 1946  
Rev. Joseph J. Toner, O.S.F.S., 1995  
Rev. Thomas A. Williams, 1969

### SEPTEMBER

Msgr. John A. Brown, 1986  
Rev. Thomas J. Colgan, 1968  
Rev. William J. Dillon, 1941  
Msgr. P.J. Doherty, 1941  
Msgr. Hugh Dolan, 1981  
Msgr. Arthur R. Freeman, P.A., V.G., 1962

Rev. Patrick Gallagher, 1983  
Rev. James H. King, 1978  
Msgr. Louis E. Morton, 1986  
Msgr. Francis K. O'Brien, 1988  
Rev. Thomas F. Price, 1919

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE



**your church at your fingertips**

- breaking, detailed diocesan news
- complete events calendar
- podcasting parish links
- Bishop's weekly gospel reflections - video and print versions

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

**CAN'T MAKE WORLD YOUTH DAY IN AUSTRALIA? Join us...**

**JOHN 6:35 BIG EVENT**



**September 26,-28, 2008**  
Now register at [www.inhisname.com/John635retreat](http://www.inhisname.com/John635retreat)

## World Youth Day Pilgrims Leave for Sydney

►► A prayer service in the chapel of RDU International Airport was the perfect sendoff for six pilgrims from the Diocese of Raleigh who left July 12 for Sydney, Australia, site of World Youth Day (WYD) 2008. Held from July 15 to 20, WYD brings together young people from around the globe to celebrate and learn about their faith. The theme for this year's event comes from Jesus' words in Acts: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth."

WYD will be the largest event Australia has ever hosted. It will attract over 125,000 international visitors - more than the 2,000 Olympics. And it will mark the first visit of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to Australia. Events will include liturgies (including two Masses celebrated by Pope Benedict), catechesis sessions at over 250 locations across Sydney, a living stations of the cross and a pilgrimage walk across Sydney Harbor Bridge.

## St. Paul Education Center Welcomes New Principal

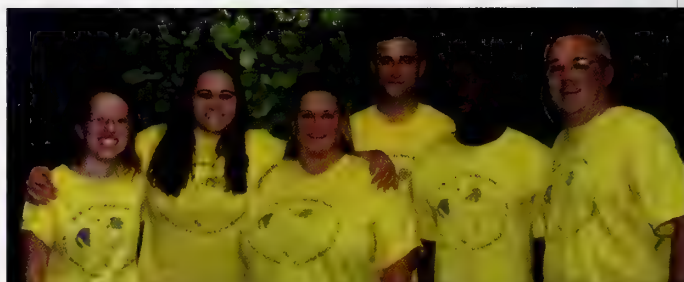
►► Monette Mahoney has begun her duties at the pre-K through Grade 8 Catholic School in New Bern, N.C. Mahoney is excited to continue the school's long tradition of faith-based education, and to apply her expertise in technology, gifted and talented programs, academic intervention services and differentiated learning. St. Paul is accepting new students for the 2008-2009 school year. Before and after school care is available. All faiths are welcome to attend. The school is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, with an exemplary rating. For more information or to arrange a tour of the school, please call (252) 633-0100.



## Thanks from the Family of Ryan Aman

►► Ryan Aman, 18, of St. Bernadette Church in Fuquay-Varina, was attending this year's Diocesan Youth Convention when he became ill and died. His family asked NC Catholics to relay the following message:

"The family of Ryan Aman would like to extend heartfelt thanks to Bishop Burbidge, Father Mark Betti and Father Robert Schriber, the ladies of the Bereavement Ministry who served lunch, and most especially to the teens and counselors who were with RYAN at the Youth Convention and who gave us courage and comfort by their presence at the services, their messages and continued thoughts and prayers."



WYD pilgrims (l. - r.) Katie McIlmoyle, Mariana Luciani, Kellie Cook, Ian Rothfuss, Nathaniel Duncombe and John Walsh. Josh Kugler, a seventh pilgrim from the Diocese of Raleigh, joined the group in California.

In a reflection at the airport prayer service, Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry Mike Hagarty shared memories of previous WYDs with the pilgrims and their families. He urged the pilgrims to pay attention to their experience, so that they would be effective witnesses to others. "The difference between a pilgrimage and a vacation," he stressed, "is the intent to witness holiness."



## New Bern Knight helps people get low-cost prescriptions

►► People cry on Walter Bock's shoulder when he helps them obtain needed prescription drugs.

Men and women of all ages meet Bock at the Knights of Columbus building on Pine Tree Drive. He helps them fill out applications and faxes them to pharmaceutical companies to provide the needed drugs.

Bock, who is 73, said many of the people are hesitant to ask for help because they have so much pride. But he said he can help anyone who meets income requirements. He said his work costs him only time, and he receives no money for his service.

"My payment is seeing the look on their face when they receive what they need," Bock said. "All the people thank me. But half have wanted to hug me and cry."

Bock spent 21 years in the Navy and worked as a Navy equipment consultant after he retired to Washington, D.C. He said he wanted to live in a place with nice weather, so he and his wife, Deborah, moved to New Bern in 1995.

In 1999, he wanted to help his mother, Jean. She lived in New Jersey at the time, had trouble getting around and had no health insurance. Bock moved her to the Brunswick House, an assisted-living facility in New Bern.

She still needed prescription medicine.

Bock said he discovered the Prescription Authorization Program. More than 400 pharmaceutical companies offer free or inexpensive prescription medication to people who have little or no income.

Bock said he was able to get about \$7,000 in drugs a year for his mother until she died in 2003. He also began helping other people at the Brunswick House and, in 2004, began working at the Knights of Columbus building.

He operates the program in one room with a computer, a fax machine and a telephone. He downloads drug applications at

needymeds.com.

Al Polidori and Joe McQuarrie help him with the program.

People may call him at (252) 635-9016 to participate.

He meets with people to decide if they are eligible to receive the drugs, and he fills out

request forms to fax to the pharmaceutical companies. A doctor must also sign the forms.

If people qualify, the drug companies will send the medicine to their doctor or their house. Most people receive a three-month supply, and they call their doctor for more medicine. After one year, people must fill out another application.

On Thursday, Bock met with Joanna Archer of River Bend. Archer has participated in Bock's program for about three years. She had several health problems and said pharmacists told her she would need \$700 a month to get the medicine she needed.

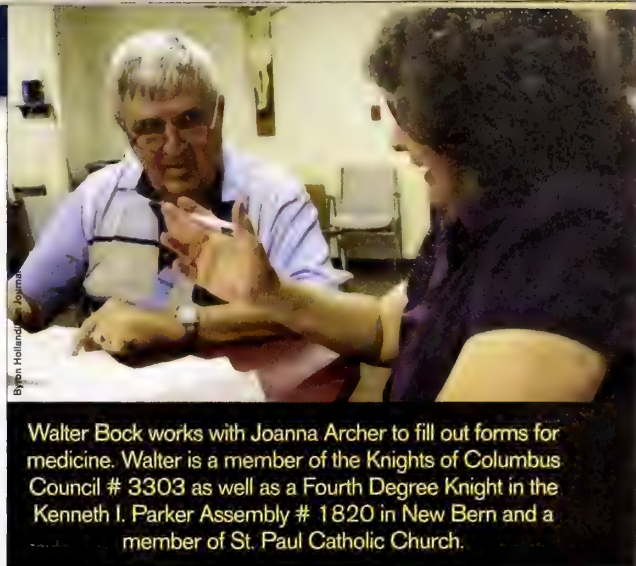
"If I would have had to go to Social Services, I wouldn't have," she said.

"But the benevolence and kindness involved in Walter's program is amazing. I can't even begin to describe how wonderful this is. It's a relief to have what I need."

Bock said he has helped about 400 people get \$790,000 worth of drugs since 2004. He has visited six churches to talk to people about the program. He wants to talk to more.

"So many people have said, 'No way, I can't fill that out,'" he said. "I tell them not to worry because I'm here to do it for them. I'm a real believer in this program, and I hope it goes through the roof."

— By Matt Tessnear. Reprinted with permission from the New Bern Sun Journal.



Walter Bock works with Joanna Archer to fill out forms for medicine. Walter is a member of the Knights of Columbus Council # 3303 as well as a Fourth Degree Knight in the Kenneth I. Parker Assembly # 1820 in New Bern and a member of St. Paul Catholic Church.

## Two Diocesan Staff Members Elected to National Positions

►► Two members of the Diocese of Raleigh Central Administration have been elected to the top offices of their national organizations.

Bea Callery, Diocesan Director of Lay Ministry Formation, is the new Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Association for Lay Ministry (NALM) and Chair of the association. NALM is a professional organization of approximately 1300 members which includes clergy, religious and lay people who serve in parish, diocesan and academic settings. Its mission is to support, educate and advocate for lay ministers and promote the development of lay ministry in the Catholic Church. The Most Reverend Gerald F. Kicanas, Bishop of Tucson, is NALM's Episcopal advisor. Although NALM was founded by lay ministry formation directors, pastoral associates currently constitute the largest ministerial group within the Association.

Frank Morock, Diocesan Director of Communications, is the new President of the Catholic Academy for Communication Arts Professionals. This will be his second three-year term as President of the Catholic Academy. The Catholic Academy is a professional organization of communication directors and specialists from dioceses, religious orders and organizations, Catholic radio, television and Internet producers, Hispanic Catholic media professionals, Catholic film/documentary producers and reviewers, media educators and media literacy professionals.

## Nominations Sought for Social Ministry Award

►► Nominations are now being accepted for the John J. Carey Award. The award is to recognize outstanding contributions to social ministry and strong commitment to the Church's social mission in the Diocese of Raleigh. Deadline for nominations is Sept. 30 — nomination forms may be requested by calling (919) 821-9750 or download from Diocesan Web site at: <http://catholiccharities.dioceseofraleigh.org>





# Mission Accomplished

## Santa Clara, Magnolia

**O**n Sunday, June 29th, the Most reverend Michael f. Burbidge dedicated a new church building for the Mission of Santa Clara in Magnolia, NC. The new church replaces the trailer which had served as Santa Clara's church since it was begun as a Mission of Immaculate Conception Parish in Clinton in the '90s.

Msgr. Williams, then Pastor of Immaculate Conception, had discovered a concentration of Hispanic Catholics living 17 miles from Clinton, many of them in a trailer park outside Magnolia called Hidden Valley Plantation. "We began by having 'field Masses' in the front yards of homes in the park," Msgr. Williams recalled. Eventually he talked to Nash Johnson, who attended Immaculate Conception

and along with his father was one of the largest turkey/poultry producers in the state, and the employer of many of the mostly Mexican residents of the park. Johnson offered one of the trailers his business normally used to house workers to be used as a church. "Nash Johnson's father," Msgr. Williams remembered, "wasn't Catholic, but he had great sympathy for the workers and a great

the Diocese of  
**Raleigh**



admiration for their family life. 'This is the way family used to be,' he would say, 'when one home would become everyone's home.'"

Gradually, the Catholic community grew and leadership formed, many of the leaders on fire with the Holy Spirit from their experiences in Cursillo. Father Patrick Keane, now Pastor of our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Newton Grove, was a seminarian in the summer of 1999, and worked at Hidden Valley. "I was driving many miles a day," Father Keane recalled,

**Santa Clara,  
Magnolia**

352 North  
Academy Street,  
Magnolia, NC  
28453



"and I gained a real appreciation for the amount of work involved in a rural mission."

Another helper at the mission was Sister Ancilla Maloney, IHM. Sister Ancilla was from the Bronx, NY, and each summer for years she would arrive for four weeks with a team of bilingual high school sophomores from New York and conduct Vacation Bible School at various locations in Sampson and Duplin Counties. In 1998, a Salvadoran priest, Father Jose Antonio Galvez, became parochial vicar at Immaculate Conception. Father Galvez was a Franciscan, and it was he who suggested that the mission (called until now "Hidden Valley" or "Magnolia") be named after St. Clare of Assisi, one of the first followers of St. Francis.

When Sisters of Divine Providence Sr. Theresine Gildea and Sr. Maxine Tancraitor arrived at Santa Clara, they began teaching, training catechists and preparing children for the Sacraments while also looking after the material and spiritual needs of new immigrant families.

Serious fundraising for a new church began in 2003. Parishioners held food sales at soccer games, fairs – every opportunity. Helped by a generous grant from the Diocese and gifts from the Knights of Columbus, and other benefactors from nearby and as far away as California and the Bahamas, the parishioners of Santa Clara acquired enough to begin. In 2004, Nash Johnson's sister Linda donated 10 acres of land in the town of Magnolia for the future church.

Along with Father Philip Tighe, then Pastor of Immaculate Conception, a crew of workers armed with chainsaws and machetes began clearing the donated land. Finally, the dimensions for a church were determined and approved. In 2007, Father Tighe was succeeded as Pastor in Clinton by Father Fernando Torres.

Santa Clara was the second church in the Diocese dedicated by Bishop Burbidge, who dedicated the new Holy Cross Church in Durham last December. Recognized at the dedication, in addition to the priests mentioned above, for their work at Santa Clara were Father Bill Upah, Father Gabriel Jaimes, Father William Restrepo and Father Luis Alberto Domicó. Formerly a Mission of Immaculate Conception, Santa Clara will now become a Mission of Maria Reina de las Americas in Mt. Olive, with Father Edgar Sepulveda as supervising Pastor. ☩



**14th Annual 5K**

*Run for Life*

*To benefit Family Honor*

Family Honor offers a family-centered approach to chastity education. Programs create opportunities and provide tools for parents and children to connect on and explore important life issues, with a special emphasis on the virtue of chastity and God's gift of sexuality. Please visit [www.familyhonor.org](http://www.familyhonor.org) for more information.

**September 6, 2008**

**5K Run for Life: 9:00 am**

**1 Mile Fun Run/Walk: 8:30 am**

**Location:** Wake Med Soccer Park (formerly SAS Soccer Park) Cary, NC

**Register to RUN:** [www.raleighrunforlife.org](http://www.raleighrunforlife.org)

**Sponsorship or donations:**

919.815.1369 or 919.815.3237 or email: [blk4jnj@juno.com](mailto:blk4jnj@juno.com)

**For more information about the Run for Life go to:**

[www.raleighrunforlife.org](http://www.raleighrunforlife.org)



## things to do:

### Priesthood Discernment

**Group** August 23, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 219 Edenton Street, Raleigh, NC 27603. Catholic men between the ages of 17-48 discerning a possible call to priesthood are invited to the priesthood discernment group meetings held on the third Saturday of each month. If you are just beginning to contemplate a vocation or are more serious about a call to priesthood please consider attending this group. The group provides a fraternal environment in which to discuss your discernment of a possible call to priesthood with other men who are also examining the call. The group discusses issues central to the call and does so within the context of prayer, presentations, and discussion. The morning begins with Mass. Coffee and doughnuts will be available in the office of vocations (two doors down from the Cathedral) after Mass. Morning prayer, a discussion/presentation about discernment/priesthood, daytime prayer and lunch follow. For more information contact the Vocations Office, 919-832-6279. Next group Sept. 20, same place and time.

**40th Anniversary Celebration of Bishop-Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman's Episcopal Ordination**, 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5 at St. Michael the Archangel, 804 High House Road, Cary, NC 27513. The Diocese of Raleigh will honor Bishop Gossman with a Mass of thanksgiving.

**Run for Life**, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sept. 6 at WakeMed Soccer Park (formerly SAS Soccer Park), Cary, NC. For more details contact Bob Klein at 919-815-3237 or Kathy Klein at 919-815-1369.

**African Ancestry Ambassador of the Word Youth Kickoff**, Sept. 6, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Alphonsus Center,

810 Reid Street East, Wilson, NC 27893. Ambassador of the Word is a youth outreach program designed for youth to prepare them for leadership roles in our Church. This program will address social, economical and spiritual needs of our youth, and will also help build self-esteem and self confidence. It is designed for Catholic youth and youth from other church traditions, ages 8-18. Program events are from Sept.-June. This year's theme: "Foundations of Your Keys to Life." Focus: Spirituality, Education, Social Justice, Health. Registration is \$15.

### Natural Family Planning

will be taught at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Raleigh by the Couple to Couple League as a series of three classes beginning on Sunday, Sept. 7, from 2 to 5 p.m. The Sympto-Thermal method is medically safe, morally acceptable and highly effective. Emphasis is on the teachings of Pope John Paul II and the Theology of the Body. Couples learn of God's plan for marriage in respecting the dignity of each other in their union. NFP Web site [www.ccli.org](http://www.ccli.org). For info and registration please call the Thelens at 786-1205 or the Seditos at 469-4226. Fee \$135. (Financial assistance application available.)

### Marriage Encounter

**Weekend**, Sept. 19-21. Weekend for couples wanting to enhance their marriage

sponsored by NC Marriage Encounter. This weekend will take place at the Charlotte Airport Holiday Inn in Charlotte, N.C. Contact Joe and Linda Costine 919-553-8393 or [wmeregister@yahoo.com](mailto:wmeregister@yahoo.com)

### Bishop's Lecture Series,

Sept. 19, 7p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes, 2718 Overbrook Drive, Raleigh, NC 27608. Dr. John Haas, President, National Catholic Bioethics Center, will address The Catholic Conscience and Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship. (The first of three lectures in the annual series.)

### Diocesan Prayer Meeting,

Sept. 20, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., St. Paul Church, 3005 Country Club Road, New Bern, NC 28562. Catholic Charismatic Renewal is sponsoring a Diocesan prayer meeting in the Family Center at St. Paul. All are welcome. For more information, contact Catholic Charismatic Services at 252-353-4433 or [ccsraleigh@earthlink.net](mailto:ccsraleigh@earthlink.net).

### Catechetical Sunday, Sept.

21, will focus on the theme, "The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church." Those who have been delegated by the community to serve as catechists will be called forth in each parish of the Diocese to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a won-

derful opportunity to reflect upon the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel as well as to rededicating himself or herself to this mission as a community of faith.

### John 6:35 Retreat, Sept.

26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 520 West Holding Avenue, Wake Forest, NC 27587. Third-annual Eucharistic Youth Retreat for youth and young adults ages 13-30.

### Parish Social Ministry Conference – Saturday,

October 4<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Newton Grove. Sponsored by Catholic Charities. The theme of the conference is, "Who is My Neighbor?" (Luke 10:29) A Parish Response to Poverty" will address poverty from various perspectives. Allison Boisvert, keynote speaker, will present Understanding Poverty-Closing the Gap. Breakout sessions will provide information and practical tools to better understand the scope of poverty in our neighborhoods, state, country and world and to bring about change. A brochure can be downloaded from the diocesan web site [www.diocesefraleigh.org](http://www.diocesefraleigh.org) by clicking on the office of Peace and Justice. To register by e-mail go to [register@raldioc.org](mailto:register@raldioc.org) or call 919-821-9751. Cost: \$20 includes lunch.

## Official Announcements

►► **The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following pastoral assignments:**

**Effective July 8, 2008** Reverend John J. Connor, C.P., of the Saint Paul of the Cross Province, is appointed Pastor of Saint Gabriel Parish, Greenville.

**Reverend Thomas McCann, C.P.**, Pastor of Saint Gabriel Parish, Greenville, is appointed Hispanic Minister of Saint Gabriel Parish, Greenville.

**Effective July 14, 2008** Reverend Raymond J. Donaldson, S.J., of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus, is appointed Pastor of Holy Cross Parish, Durham.

**Effective Sept. 1, 2008** Reverend Edward T. Fitzpatrick, O.S.F.S., Oblates of Saint Francis de Sales, Wilmington-Philadelphia Province, is appointed Parochial Vicar of Holy Redeemer by the Sea Parish, Kitty Hawk.



# SIGN UP FOR THE Creative Estate Planning Course

**An in-home study for you to learn more about the complexities of estate planning.**

## How does it work?

It is a "seminar by mail" Featuring five lessons, each consisting of four pages of easy-to-read information. One lesson will be mailed to you each week.

## Is there a cost to participate?

No, this seminar is provided as a service of the Diocese of Raleigh.

## How can I sign up?

Just fill out the information below and mail to:  
Office of Stewardship & Development  
Catholic Diocese of Raleigh  
715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606  
OR  
[rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org)



## What topics are covered?

"How You Can Shape the Future."

"How to Make a Better Will"

"How to Lower Estate and Gift Taxes"

"How Trusts Can Improve Your Estate Plan"

"How to Boost Income and Cut Taxes Now."



At the end you will receive a personal estate planning book to complete for your records

Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Visit our Estate Planning Web Site:**

**[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.**

## Retirement is not what it use to be!

At Pennybyrn at Maryfield, you are free to do what you choose, at a speed that's comfortable for you. Try something new. Travel more. Stretch your mind. Forget yard work and housekeeping. Gear up for a life of leisure that can take you anywhere you want to go!

Visit us today, or call (336) 821-4050 or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com) • 109 Penny Road, High Point, NC 27260



MAG/NCC/6-08





No one is born a priest. "The pastoral care of vocations needs to involve the entire Christian community in every area of its life. Obviously, this pastoral work on all levels also includes exploring the matter with families, which are often indifferent or even opposed to the idea of a priestly vocation. Families should generously embrace the gift of life and bring up their children to be open to doing God's will. In a word, they must have the courage to set before young people the radical decision to follow Christ, showing them how deeply rewarding it is."

Pope Benedict XVI  
(*Sacramentum Caritatis*, 25)



Roman Catholic  
Diocese of Raleigh  
Office of Vocations

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org/vocations](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/vocations)

August 2008



**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



please recycle



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514

35737

P 12 1215

SERIALS DEPARTMENT

34111

CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY

CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE

OF THE CATHOLIC

CHURCH IN EASTERN

NORTH CAROLINA

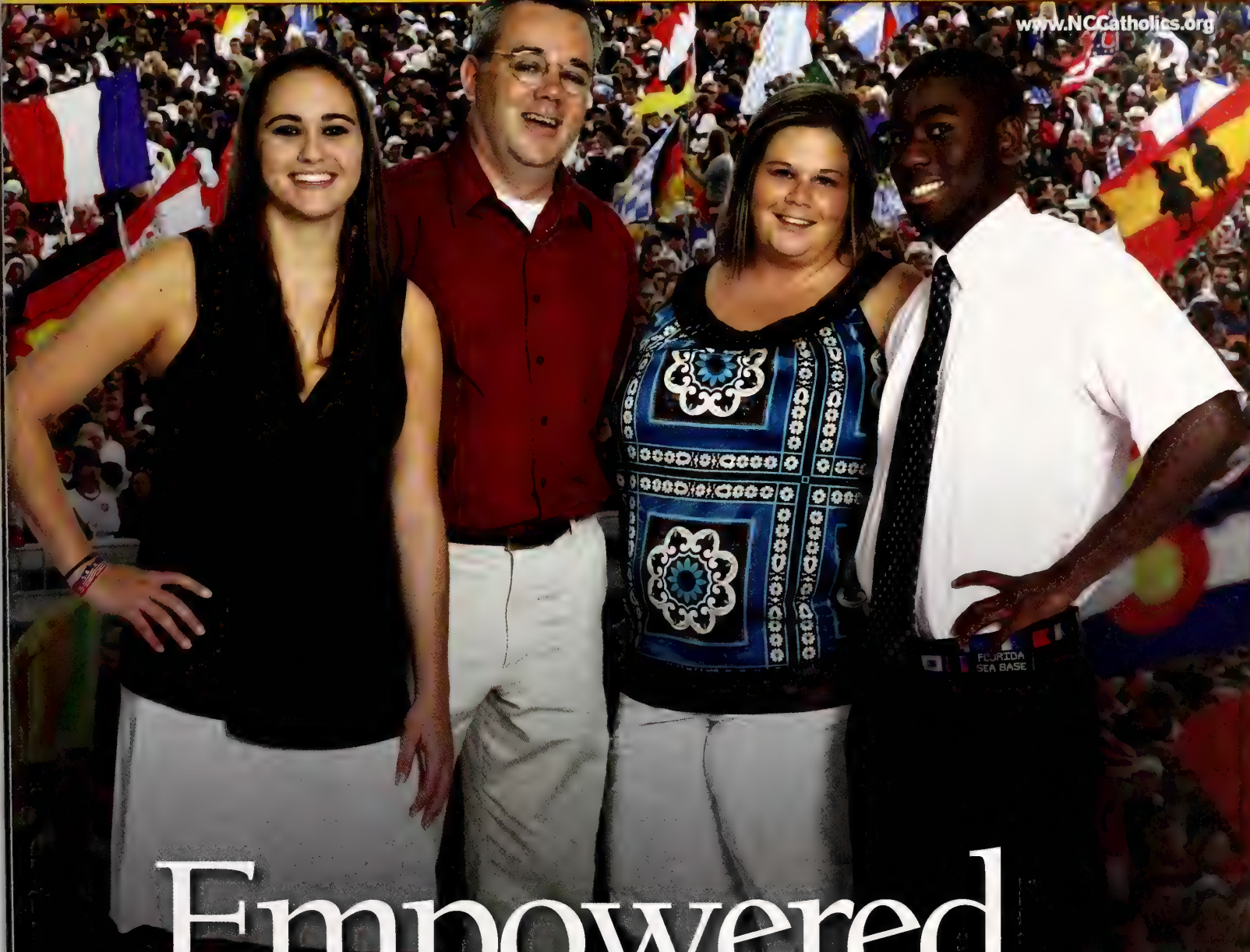
DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

September 2008

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



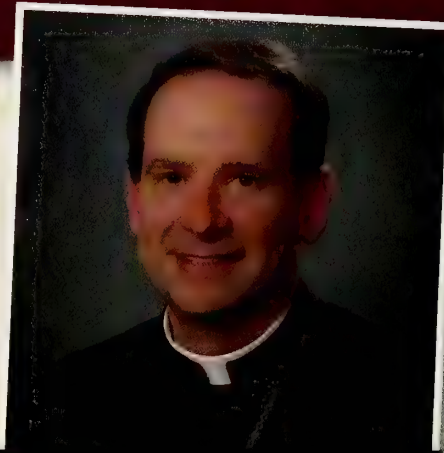
## Empowered

Raleigh's World Youth Day Pilgrims Return as Witnesses to Holiness

## BY THE Spirit



**U**pon receiving notice in 2006 that the Holy Father had appointed me the Bishop of Raleigh, I called Bishop Gossman. Bishop Gossman was most gracious and conveyed the great love he had for the diocese. He immediately told me of his willingness to support me in any way possible. Those words meant, and continue to mean, a great deal to me.



On the day of the press conference officially announcing my appointment, Bishop Gossman and I appeared for the first time together in public. The questions, while respectful, seemed to reflect a desire to pursue our differences. There is nothing wrong with acknowledging differences; different gifts have served the Lord since the moment Jesus called the first disciples. However, Bishop Gossman and I emphasized what we had in common: a profound love for the Lord and His Church and a deep desire to serve His people.

## 40th Anniversary of Bishop Gossman's Ordination as Bishop

Bishop Gossman and I also believe firmly that it is the Lord who sends and sustains us. That truth is taught clearly by the Second Vatican Council: "Bishops, as successors of the apostles, receive from the Lord, to whom was given all power in heaven and on earth, the mission to teach all nations and to preach the Gospel to every creature...To fulfill this mission, Christ the Lord promised the Holy Spirit" (*Lumen Gentium*, 24). In an Address in 2006, Pope Benedict XVI also emphasized the One in whose name all things are accomplished: "Through Apostolic Succession it is Christ who reaches us. In the words of the Apostles and of their successors, it is He who speaks to us; through their hands, it is He who acts in the Sacraments; in their gaze, it is His gaze that embraces us and makes us feel loved and welcomed into the heart of God. And still today, as at the outset, Christ Himself is the true Shepherd and Guardian of our souls whom we follow with deep trust, gratitude and joy."

At our Holy Father's Address to Bishops during his April pastoral visit to the U.S., Bishop Gossman and I had the privilege of sitting next to each other. We heard Pope Benedict speak these words: "In every time and place the Church is called to grow in unity through constant conversion to Christ, whose saving work is proclaimed by the Successors to the Apostles and celebrated in the Sacraments. This unity, in turn, gives rise to an unceasing missionary outreach, as the Spirit spurs believers to proclaim the great works of God." It is my hope and prayer that all in our diocese recognize and celebrate the unity that Bishop Gossman and I share as brother Bishops as well as the unity that is ours as sisters and brothers in Christ and as members of God's Holy Family.

In addition to benefiting from Bishop Gossman's constant support and sound advice, I am truly grateful for his wonderful example. His Episcopal motto, "To serve – not be served," has been manifested not only throughout his years as Bishop but indeed his whole Priesthood. I am inspired by his commitment to prayer, his humility, simplicity and generous service. In two short years, I have come to recognize him, as so many of you have throughout the years, as a gentle, loving and wise shepherd.

It is a special gift for our Diocese and the entire Church to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Bishop Gossman's ordination as Bishop. It is a special moment to thank God for the blessings that He has bestowed upon Bishop Gossman throughout these years, for allowing him to serve as Ordinary of the Diocese of Raleigh for 31 of those years and for giving him the strength and grace to continue to serve in our midst. As we celebrate Bishop Gossman's faithfulness and dedication, we also use this special occasion to renew our promises to the vocation God has entrusted to us. We join together in expressing sincere and prayerful best wishes to Bishop Gossman and to pray that through Mary's intercession and with God's grace, he will continue to follow and imitate Jesus Christ, our true shepherd and guardian, with deep trust, gratitude and joy. Congratulations Bishop Gossman and God bless you always!

– Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh



## Forty Years a Bishop: An Interview With Bishop Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman

►► On September 5, the Diocese of Raleigh honored Bishop Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman on the 40th anniversary of his ordination as a Bishop. NCC asked Bishop Gossman about his years as a Bishop in Baltimore and Raleigh.

# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

### from the Bishop

**2** 40th Anniversary of Bishop Gossman's Ordination as Bishop

— Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

### since you asked ...

**10** Since the Holy Father has declared a Jubilee Year of St. Paul, I'm wondering: What is the best way for me to learn about St. Paul?

— Father Jonathan A. Woodhall

### from the editor

**11** Wonderfully made — Rich Reece



### theology 101

**12** Anointing of the sick: no longer just a sacrament for the dying — Rita Thiron

### saint of the month

**14** St. Gabriel, the angel of mercy

### voices in our church

**15** Thoughts on St. Paul

— Msgr. Thomas Hadden

**15** Llamados a evangelizar

— Padre Fernando Torres

### cover story

**16** Empowered by the Spirit — Raleigh's World Youth Day Pilgrims Return as Witnesses to Holiness — Rich Reece

### your marriage matters

**27** She says: Finally, a grandchild! I can't wait to baby-sit. He says: We've already raised our children — it's not our turn — Tom and JoAnne Fogle

### parish profile

**28** Celebrating 25 Years — St. Andrew the Apostle, Apex — Rich Reece

## el hispano Católico

## 24 Querido lector de NCC

►► Querido lector: ¿Desde que el Santo Padre proclamó el año de San Pablo, me pregunto: ¿De qué manera puedo aprender más sobre San Pablo?

— El Padre Jonathan A. Woodhall

## 25 Obispo Burbidge

►► El cuadragésimo aniversario de la ordenación del Obispo Gossman

— Obispo Michael F. Burbidge



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
**PUBLISHER**

Frank Morock  
**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**

September 2008 • Vol. 4 : Issue 7

Richard Reece  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

Holly Stringer  
**ADVERTISING MANAGER**

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Ann Marie DiSerafino  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Father Fernando Torres  
Father Johnathan A. Woodhall  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Nathalie Fuerst  
**TRANSLATOR**

Denmark Photo and Video (cover)  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
**CHAIRMAN**

Patrick M. O'Brien  
**PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
**EDITORIAL DIRECTOR**

Vicki Bedard  
**DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING**

Jillane Job  
**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT**

Patricia Oliver  
**SECRETARY**

Patrick Dally  
**ART DIRECTOR**

Lynne Ridenour  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNER/WEB MASTER**

Abby Wieber  
**GRAPHIC DESIGNERS**

Betsy Miner  
**PROOFREADING**

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Tim Ryan  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

InnerWorkings  
**PRINT MANAGEMENT**



NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and June. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@ralsdioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™. Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

**Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:**

**Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730**

## Bishop Burbidge Promulgates New Liturgical Norms

**I**n August Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge announced the promulgation of "General Norms for the Celebration of the Sacred Liturgy of the Mass in the *Forma Ordinaria*" to take effect in the Diocese of Raleigh October 19, 2008. Bishop Burbidge made the announcement during the celebration of Mass August 4, 2008, commemorating the second anniversary of his installation as Bishop of Raleigh.

In his homily, the Bishop spoke of the joyful celebration of Eucharistic Liturgies that take place throughout the Diocese. The new Norms, he said, will highlight the rich guidance of the Church and are "meant as a helpful guide and tool to reflect the unity that is ours in Christ Jesus as members of the universal Church."

"The Church teaches us that the celebration of the Holy Eucharist is the centerpiece of our faith, indeed the 'source and summit of the Christian life,'" Bishop Burbidge wrote in a letter decreeing the promulgation of the norms "to celebrate and preserve these sacred mysteries with renewed reverence, care, devotion and love."

Father David D. Brockman, Vicar General of the Diocese of Raleigh, spoke with NC Catholics about the Norms, echoing the Bishop's words. "When we celebrate the Mass with reverence, devotion and love," Father Brockman added, "we can then go forth to live out those values and virtues strengthened by the gift of the Eucharist that we've received."

He emphasized that part of praying the Mass, and a goal in publishing the Diocesan Norms, is praying with unity. "People often remark," he said, "that wherever they travel, however diverse the cultures they encounter, the Mass is always the same. And this gives facility to our prayer."

Father Brockman said that care was taken not only in formulating the guidelines but also to explain some of the reasoning behind them, "to make them logical, and to elaborate on what is being directed by the Church to better our prayer." In his written decree, the Bishop asked Pastors, together with Pastoral Administrators, to invite parish directors of liturgy and parish liturgy committee members to attend continuing liturgical formation and to implement the document, studying its foundations in the teachings of the Church.

To assist in this process, two Diocesan liturgical

formation sessions on the document were offered, one at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Newton Grove, Aug. 23 in English and Sept. 20 in Spanish. A third formation session will be offered at St. Andrew Parish, Apex, on Sept. 27 in English. In addition, a series of bulletin inserts have been made available as a resource for the liturgical formation of the faithful on the Diocesan norms and on the universal norms of the Church for the celebration of the Mass.

Father Brockman said that this ongoing formation also involves the establishment of a more "full and active" Diocesan Office of Worship, for which a director is currently being sought. "This individual will also assist with ongoing liturgical formation on these norms, workshops for liturgical ministers and future formation on the English translation of the Third Typical Edition of the Roman Missal, which is anticipated sometime in the next two or three years."

One of the most important sections of the norms, Father Brockman says, deals with preparation for the Mass, "creating the disposition for Mass, in terms of how families and individuals are intently entering into prayer."

The norms also deal with questions about the actions and posture of the faithful at Mass. Should we or should we not hold hands during the Our Father? Why do we now kneel after the *Agnus Dei*? After Communion, do we stand or kneel? "Many of these things invite deeper





questions," Father Brockman says. "Do we understand what is really happening at the Mass? Are we truly one in prayer and in knowledge of who our brothers and sisters are? How does that understanding affect posture and gestures? Those kinds of questions are the reason for formation accompanying the norms."

Some of the norms involve the church building, such as the proper placement of the tabernacle. "These are 'particular' norms to the Diocese of Raleigh, which are guided by the universal norms of the Church," Father Brockman explains. "Every Bishop has the obligation to instruct the faithful in the universal norms of the Church, but he also has the opportunity and authority to direct certain things such as the arrangement of items in churches in his Diocese. Bishop Burbidge has asked that tabernacles be placed in plain view in or near the sanctuary, so that no one's back is ever turned on the Blessed Sacrament. That expresses the sense of how important the Blessed Sacrament is to our Catholic life, because of our belief in the Real Presence."

In the decree promulgating these norms, Bishop Burbidge concludes by saying what is always our goal in prayer, most especially when we pray the Mass: "The sole desire [through the Norms] is to draw all of the faithful closer to Jesus through His Word and in the Most Blessed Sacrament... so that the Eucharist may be, in the words of our Holy Father Benedict XVI, 'firmly believed, devoutly celebrated, and intensely lived.'"

The full version of "General Norms for the Celebration of the Sacred Liturgy of the Mass in the *Forma Ordinaria*" is available on our Diocesan web site at <http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/news/GeneralNormsMass.pdf>.

## Forty Years a Bishop: An Interview With Bishop Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman

**O**n September 5, (see pictures of the celebration on page 8-9) the Diocese of Raleigh honored Bishop Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman on the 40th anniversary of his Ordination as a Bishop. NCC asked Bishop Gossman about his years as a Bishop in Baltimore and Raleigh.

►► **Bishop Gossman, you were ordained an Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Baltimore at the age of 38, in the wake of the Second Vatican Council. And you served in Baltimore for almost seven years before coming to Raleigh. What do you remember about those early years as an Auxiliary Bishop?**

I was ordained to the episcopacy for the Archdiocese of Baltimore in 1968, a year that has been called one of the "most turbulent, divisive and pivotal twelve month periods in American history."

Baltimore was in the middle of the turmoil. It was a long, hot summer. In 1968 Lawrence Cardinal Shehan was Cardinal Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. He was known as a strong supporter of ecumenism and religious liberty. He was also concerned about racism in America and in his Archdiocese. In 1963 he participated in the March on Washington with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and issued a strong pastoral letter on racial justice stating that "discrimination has no place in the Church." He made a study of racism in the Archdiocese and formally requested diocesan institutions to approve and support a rule of nondiscrimination.

In 1970, deeply concerned about what he saw as the slow death of the inner city of Baltimore, he created the Urban Vicariate with forty-eight parishes of the inner city. He appointed me as the first Urban Vicar. I was charged to work with the already established Urban Commission and a Priests Council comprised of the priests, diocesan and religious, who staffed the inner city parishes. With a Task Force comprised of individuals with many different backgrounds and competencies, we were to set up Area Councils and devise a plan for the inner city parishes that would preserve our limited resources, be financially responsible and distribute cost equitably. We were to be sensitive and responsive to those in greatest need, preserve and strengthen our schools and religious education programs, ensure jobs and the best placement of personnel, avoid crisis decision-making,

*continued on next page*







2008 YEAR OF ST. PAUL

## Celebrate St. Paul

**E**ach month, *NC Catholics* will report on various initiatives and activities throughout the Diocese to incorporate the Jubilee Year of St. Paul into the spiritual formation of the faithful. Watch this space! If you know of Pauline events occurring, send information and or pictures to *NC Catholics* by emailing [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).

On Sept. 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Raleigh presents **Paul: The Man and His Message**, with Father John R. Donahue, S.J.

Father Donahue is professor of New Testament at the Jesuit School of Theology and Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, Calif. He is the author of books on the Gospels of Mark and John, and a frequent contributor to scholarly and popular journals, including *America Magazine*.

At the **Emmaus Conference**, Oct. 17-18 at St. Paul Catholic Church in New Bern, N.C., Paul Griffiths, Warren Chair of Catholic Theology at Duke Divinity School, will speak on Paul the Evangelist.

Throughout the Jubilee Year, the Diocese of Raleigh is producing a series of **podcast reflections** on the life and works of St. Paul. Both audio and video of these reflections is available on the Diocesan Web site. The first reflection, *An Introduction to St. Paul*, will feature Father Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D. Father Woodhall, a retired priest of the diocese, is assistant director of the Diocesan Office of the Permanent Diaconate, and a member of the adjunct faculty of St. Mary Seminary and University, Baltimore, Md.

The Diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry will be using Pauline themes in their **FaithTrax program** for middle school youth.

Sister Rose Marie Adams, I.H.M., Diocesan Director of Evangelization and Catechesis, has ordered the book **St. Paul: Called to Conversion, A Seven-Day Retreat**, by Ronald Witherup, to distribute as a gift from the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge to parish catechetical leaders and school principals.

Sister Susan Armbruster, I.H.M., will use the Witherup book with small faith formation groups at **St. Paul Catholic Church in New Bern, N.C.**

Many events are being planned for Jan. 25, the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, concluding the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

transcend the cultural, racial and ethnic differences that were there, and obtain the consent and support of the people in the parishes.

The whole of my life as a priest had been spent in academia or administration. My experience in a parish was limited to two years as interim rector of the Cathedral of Mary, Our Queen. There were pastors and parishioners who thought, understandably, that I was too young and too inexperienced to be a Bishop, let alone the Urban Vicar. But with the help of God, the full support of the Cardinal and Archdiocesan and school administration, the good will and expertise of the consecrated religious and men and women in the parishes, and the tireless effort of my brother priests, we devised a plan for the parishes and schools in the inner city that, though not perfect, worked.

Forty years later I now know that whatever I may have learned about working collegially, building consensus, being financially responsible, withstanding criticism, avoiding micro-management, supporting and getting out of the way of those I charged with tasks, recognizing my own limitations and drawing on the strengths and the expertise of my collaborators, acknowledging that there was only one presbyterate comprised of religious and diocesan priests, believing that differences and diversity were gifts of God, praying non-stop and relying on the grace of God and the inspiration of the Spirit, was learned in my four years as Urban Vicar of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. I will be forever grateful to Cardinal Shehan.

**Forty years later  
I now know that  
whatever I may  
have learned ...  
was learned in  
my four years as  
Urban Vicar of the  
Archdiocese of  
Baltimore. I will be  
forever grateful to  
Cardinal Shehan.**

►► **When you were appointed Bishop of Raleigh in 1975, what did you expect? Was the reality different from your expectations?**

I confess I had no expectations. I had visited North Carolina only three times in my life. Twice on a holiday at the Outer Banks and once to attend a Cursillo. I remarked at the time that I was going from the inner city to outer space. I remember when I looked in the Official Catholic Directory to see what was written there about the Diocese of Raleigh I thought to myself, "Maybe it's not too big. Maybe I can get my arms around it."

►► **You served as Bishop of Raleigh for more than 30 years until retirement. What were the most significant challenges for you and for the Diocese during those years?**

In the early months the most significant challenge was just finding my way around. I went from visiting



places I had known all my life, on streets and roads I had traveled for years, seeing people most of whom I knew, to looking for places I had never seen, driving down roads I had

never traveled, to meet people, who though friendly and smiling, I didn't recognize. The immediate challenge was to get to know the priests, religious and people of the Diocese. I needed to learn their names, their backgrounds,

their hopes and fears, their needs and competencies and expectations. And I needed to be able to find my way around and not get lost.

In 1975, Catholics in the diocese numbered less than 2% of the total population, fewer than in any other of the 50 states. They were scattered over 32,000, square miles, some in parishes numbering hundreds of parishioners and some in parishes with fewer than 50 parishioners. It was a challenge just to show those in the small parishes that they were as important and significant as those living in the Triangle or the large cities.

We were a vast minority in a very religious and Protestant state and the challenge was to take a leadership role to foster and promote ecumenism. We needed to reflect, in word and work, the vision of what it means to be Church, as written in the documents of Vatican II, at the same time avoiding the inappropriate practices that were beginning to appear.

There was the challenge to secure the financial base of the Diocese by long-range planning for growth and budgeting our resources, since I was not in favor of deficit budgeting. We had to dispose of deteriorating buildings; to improve the priests' retirement fund, to encourage and support more participation from competent religious and laity, and to assume the full responsibility for publishing a Diocesan newspaper, rather than

doing so together with the Diocese of Charlotte as we had been doing.

Promoting social justice was a challenge and priority then even as it is now. We were challenged to use our moral authority to obtain a living wage and fair housing for workers and protect all life from conception to natural death, protesting against both abortion and capital punishment. We needed to incorporate the growing Hispanic population into our faith communities at the same time we preserved their cultural strengths and ethnic traditions. We also had to strengthen our outreach and ministry to individuals of African American ancestry and to those emigrating from Asia. We were challenged to expand services for the poor, the needy, the elderly, and the most disenfranchised in the Diocese. Then, as now, those who would

benefit most from the services of Catholic Social Ministries were not always Catholic. In order to reach more people we had to regionalize these services. We had to expand and reorganize the staff of the Catholic Center to provide more assistance and expertise to the parishes as well as reflect a style of management with which I was comfortable. This expansion of administration (the bureaucracy) did not always meet with approval.

As the years passed there was the ever present challenge of unprecendented and unorganized growth. Our Catholic population has grown to almost 5% of the total population. New parishes and schools had to be built; our religious education, catechetical, and lay ministry and campus ministry programs required parallel growth to accommodate the growing number of Catholics who moved into the state. The demand for the services of Catholic Social Ministries, now Catholic Charities,

grew exponentially. We needed to be able to provide financial support for parishes through programs such as the Diocesan Loan Deposit Program and the School Tuition program; to broaden the participation of all the people through establishment of Parish Councils in every parish, and groups such as the Finance Council and the Building and Real Estate Commission. To assure that there was proper attention paid to the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church, the Office of Liturgy was established.

We are fortunate that the challenge of growth and the need for more services for more people has been met by the extraordinary dedication of our priests and religious and exceptional generosity of our Catholic people"

We are fortunate that the challenge of growth and the need for more services for more people has been met by the extraordinary dedication of our priests and religious and exceptional generosity of our Catholic people evidenced by their response to the Bishops Annual Appeal, the Capital Campaign, the Cam-

campaign for Human Development and the building of our new high school.

Our greatest challenge and the saddest and most painful period of my fifty years as a priest came from the revelation of the sexual abuse of minors by a few members of the clergy and the crisis it precipitated. Within a very short period of time we had to become fully familiar with Church law and the law of North Carolina, determine what the facts were in the Diocese of Raleigh and in a spirit of openness and transparency to inform our people. We had to develop policies and procedures that would restore the communities' confidence in our priests, the vast majority of whom were faithful and deeply dedicated, and in the honesty of their Bishop. We needed to reach out and try to heal the wounds of the victims and provide just compensation for them when appropriate. In order to do all we could to ensure the safety of our children, it was imperative that we provide

*continued on page 22*





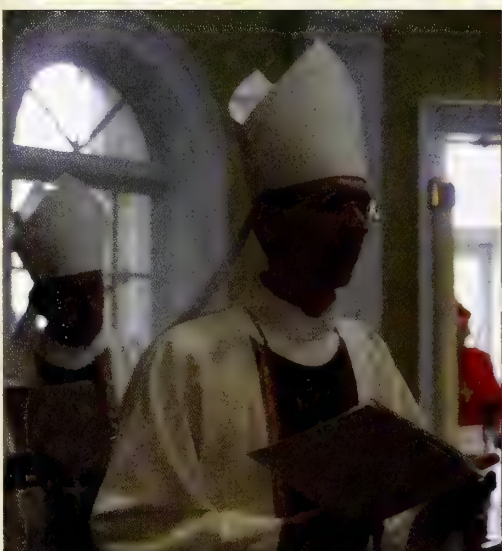
Deacons Bert L'Homme and Laurence DeCarolis prepare for the Mass.



Seminarians Charles Fraune, Ronald Hackett and Michael Burbeck lead the procession into St. Michael's.



Priests of the Diocese process to the altar.



The Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte.



Bishop Gossman incenses the altar in preparation for Mass.



Bishop Gossman, principal celebrant at the Mass, accepts the gifts at the Offertory.



The Bishops in attendance concelebrating Mass with Bishop Gossman.







# A Celebration of priesthood

**P**hotos from the Mass of Thanksgiving on September 5, 2008, the 40th anniversary of Bishop Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman's ordination as a Bishop.



After Mass, Bishop Gossman greeted well wishers outside the church.



The Bishops in attendance assembled.



Bishops entering the church. Left to right: Bishop Peter J. Jugis of Charlotte; Archbishop Emeritus John F. Donaghue of Atlanta; Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Raleigh; Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory of Atlanta. Behind: Msgr. Tim O'Connor, Pastor of St. Michael and Master of Ceremonies.



His Eminence Cardinal William F. Keeler, Archbishop Emeritus of Baltimore.



**Dear NCC: Since the Holy Father has declared a Jubilee Year of St. Paul, I'm wondering: What is the best way for me to learn about St. Paul?**

# Dear NCC

This month with  
Father Jonathan A. Woodhall

**A**t the prompting of Pope Benedict, Catholics and indeed, all Christians, have been urged to celebrate the 2000th anniversary of the birth of St. Paul during 2008-2009 by studying his letters and by praying with his deeply religious and foundational insights.

Scholars place St. Paul's birth between the years 5 and 10 of the Christian era in Tarsus, a city located in present-day Turkey. He was born to a Jewish family in the Diaspora (Jews living outside the Holy Land) and members of his family were Roman citizens. Saul was his Jewish name and St. Paul his Roman name.

Because of his Roman citizenship, scholars think St. Paul came from an influential and educated background. St. Paul himself tells us he came from a highly religious family who were Pharisees. For many Christians, the word *Pharisee* denotes "a hypocrite" but, in reality, the vast majority of Pharisees was made up of pious Jews who lived not only the letter but the spirit of the Law of Moses. Jesus disputed with the religious officials of his time, many of whom were Pharisees, precisely because those Pharisees honored more the letter of the Law and not the spirit of the Law of Moses.

To best understand St. Paul, a person needs to read his letters. Galatians is his "autobiography." St. Paul's life and journeys are also narrated in the Acts of the Apostles. However, we need to remind ourselves that Acts was written many years after St. Paul's death. We also must keep in mind the theological aim of Acts, understanding that the events related therein are more idealized than historical, as we might today understand the word "history."

When a person reads St. Paul's letters, the Christian may wonder why St. Paul does not write about the life or ministry or even the words of Jesus, as do the familiar gospels. St. Paul was writing letters to individual Christian communities with the exception of the letter to the slave owner Philemon. These communities may have been experiencing difficulties. He wrote letters of

encouragement, ethical teachings and sometimes letters aimed to correct wrong beliefs or immoral behaviors.

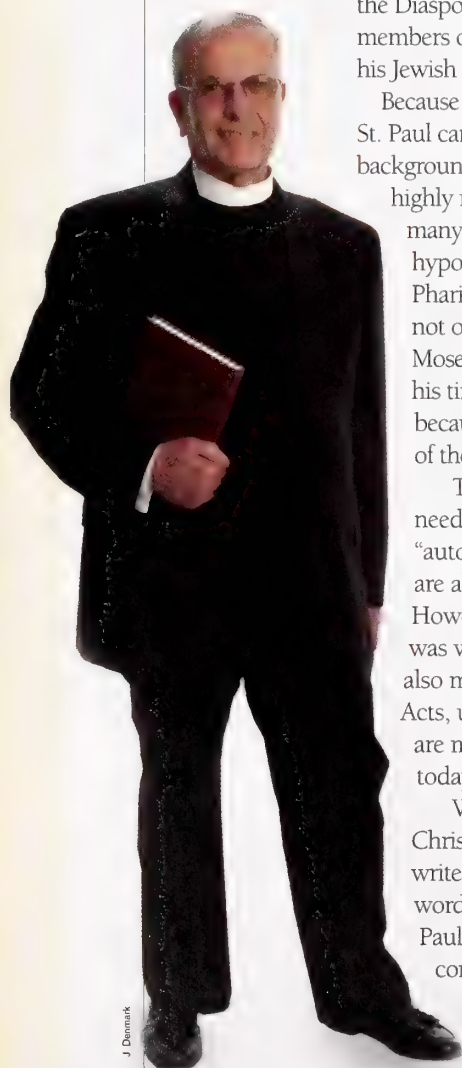
St. Paul wrote his letters grounded in his belief in the singular importance of Jesus' coming into this world. In short, St. Paul concentrated on what we might call "the Christ event," that is, St. Paul's writings consist of theological reflections, not storytelling.

We may prefer to hear a story about Jesus but for St. Paul and for the early Church, as for the Catholic Church of the 21st century, who Jesus is and why Jesus is important to Christians generally, to me individually and, in fact, to the whole world is the basis of our Christian faith.

The question of where to start in one's studying or praying with St. Paul can be challenging for a person. Do I open my New Testament and start with St. Paul's first listed letter to the Romans? My suggestion is not to start with Romans. The reasons I would give are that this letter is his longest and most difficult and it was probably one of the last letters he wrote.

St. Paul's letters are listed in the New Testament not chronologically but by length: Romans, the longest and Philemon, the shortest. Additionally, the pastoral letters, 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus, while representing Paul's thought, were probably written by his disciples who wanted to pass on the Church order that evolved from Paul's teachings. Probably also redacted by his disciples were 2 Thessalonians as well as Colossians and Ephesians. All six of these letters, whose authorship may be disputed by many biblical scholars, nevertheless represent genuine Pauline thought and should be taken seriously by Christians.

There is no substitute for reading St. Paul's letters themselves. Perhaps one could start with 1 Thessalonians, likely the earliest letter dating from around 51 and describing tensions that community was experiencing because some members had died before Christ's expected second coming; then moving to 1 and 2 Corinthians that speak of real Christians trying to live in the real world; then Galatians that contains autobiographical information and stresses the importance of freedom because of faith in Jesus; then Philippians to be read as a spiritual experience of what genuine Christian



J. Denmark



joy is; then to Philemon which accepts slavery as a social institution of the day but which also puts slaves and owners on an equal plain; and finally reading Romans, written in his anticipated journey there to a community started by others to explain how St. Paul understands the depths of the Christ event for all peoples. This general sequence of reading might be a helpful way to study and pray with the Apostle to the Nations, as St. Paul is aptly called.

Reading the introduction to a particular letter of St. Paul in a Bible that offers introductions and other notes for readers (e.g., The New American Bible) can orient a person and such material aids a person in better understanding St. Paul's points. All St. Paul's letters are specific to a particular situation. It is important to understand the context of what is written in Scripture in order to avoid misinterpretation of a passage. Everything written by St. Paul and transmitted by his disciples can be helpful to Christians 2000 years later. However, not every situation today can find an answer in Scripture, except in a general way.

Additionally, during this Jubilee Year of St. St. Paul, many other spiritual and study resources are available. The Diocesan Web site is a good place to start, if a person would like valuable and sound recommendations for materials on St. Paul.

Slowly reading a passage of St. Paul, then thinking and praying with it for a brief period [maybe just 15 minutes] can be a very rewarding spiritual experience. But like all things, success in prayer requires discipline. My advice is to read St. Paul on a regular basis in order to experience the greatest spiritual insights. ✠

— Fr. Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D., is a retired priest of the Diocese. He is Assistant Director of the Diocesan Office of the Permanent Diaconate, and a member of the adjunct faculty of St. Mary Seminary and University, Baltimore, MD.

**Send your questions to:**  
**"Since you asked ..."**

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

**Or:**

reece@raldioc.org

## Wonderfully Made

**A**s I'm writing, the Summer Olympics are in their second week, and I've been pulled in by the drama – or the hype – once again. And there have been moments, as there always seem to be in these games, of courage and beauty: Shalane Flanagan gutting out a bronze medal in the 10,000 meters; the Chinese divers; swimmer Dara Torres contending at 41.

The first time I noticed the Olympics at all, I was probably ten. But I can still remember being transfixed by the image on our black-and-white television of a woman running like I'd never seen anyone run before, her long strides impossibly graceful, her speed seemingly effortless as she flowed ahead of her competitors. So Wilma Rudolph gave me my first "Olympic moment."

### The psalmist wrote:

*You formed my inmost being;  
You knit me in my mother's womb.  
I praise You, so wonderfully You made me;  
wonderful are Your works!* Ps. 139: 13-14

That Olympic athletes are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (to quote another translation of the Psalm) is obvious, because our attention, the attention of the media en masse, is so focused on their efforts and triumphs. But if we paid that kind of attention to any one of our brothers and sisters, the psalmist's words would ring just as true.

The Church reminds us of this in its efforts to reverence and protect all human life from conception to natural death. That the unborn, the sick, the elderly, the poor, the mentally ill, even those imprisoned for crimes, are "wonderfully made" is a profoundly counter-cultural message in a society obsessed with appearance and celebrity. But the consistency and force with which the Church preaches that truth is one reason to be proud to be Catholic.

Catholic pride was a feeling that ran strong at World Youth Day 2008 in Sydney, Australia, according to the WYD pilgrims from our Diocese. You can read about their experiences in this month's cover story. Also, don't miss our interview with Bishop Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman starting on page 5.

►► Thank you for your letters and emails! You can write me at 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.

— Richard Reece is the editor of NC Catholics.





# Anointing of the sick: no longer just a sacrament for the dying



**H**uman sickness has always been among the greatest problems that trouble the human spirit. Sickness diminishes our capacity to function normally, it affects our relationships, and it isolates us from the community. It can give us a glimpse of our own mortality. Sometimes, in a state of despair, a person's faith can be tested; at other times, illness can be a way to conversion, causing the sick person to evaluate what is essential in life and to turn to God for forgiveness and healing.

Jesus understood this. In his earthly life, Jesus always had compassion for those who were sick or suffering. He cured their infirmities as well as their troubled souls. By His own passion and death, Jesus gave new meaning to suffering – a sacrificial, redemptive act. Our illness, then, is not punishment for sin, but a participation in the suffering of Christ.

Christ commissioned His apostles to heal in His name (Mk 16:17-18). James offers us evidence that a practice of anointing and healing existed in the early Church (James 5:14-15). This compassionate care continues in the Church's sacrament of the anointing of the sick. In the place of isolation, we offer the community's support; in the midst of fear and sorrow for sins, we offer God's mercy and forgiveness; and in the face of human infirmity, we offer anointing for physical and spiritual healing. For both the sick person and the

## Timeline: the history of healing

### Old Testament

- There is evidence of the use of **oils and balms** for healing from early civilizations. Medicines were used, but it was God who healed. Pain, sickness, and death are not envisioned as part of God's original plan. Genesis 1, 2.

### New Testament

#### Healing is a major theme:

- Cure of the paralytic Mt 9:1-8
- Man born blind John 9: 1-39
- Ten lepers Lk 17:11-19
- Centurion's servant Mt 8:5-13
- St. Peter's mother-in-law Mt 8:14-5; Mk 1:29-31
- **Jesus, a living sacrament** of God's

compassion and God's power over sickness and death, healed by word and touch; healing presence brought **inward renewal and outward cure**.

Zaccheus – Luke 19:1-10

- **The Apostles** "expelled many demons, anointed the sick with oil, and worked many cures." Mark 6:13
- Sick brought to the **priests** of the church for anointing James 5:14-15

### Pre-Nicene

- **Rite of anointing** mentioned in early Church Orders
- **Lay faithful** led rituals of spiritual and physical healings with olive oil blessed by the Bishop. Usually not a priestly duty.

- Also used oil for catechumens' **exorcism, post-baptismal anointings and reconciliation**

### 5th-12th centuries

- Popes Innocent I provides a prayer for the  **blessing of the oil** for a sick person (c. 410)
- The sacrament of anointing is joined to reconciliation and viaticum (normative sacraments for the dying). Becomes the sacrament of the dying – **"Extreme unction."** Priest becomes primary anointer since it was

associated with penance.

- **The Venerable Bede** wrote commentary on the rite in England noting its similarity to the French rite. (7th c.)
- Since public penance was typically made only once, one waited for their deathbed.

#### Rites take on a more penitential character;

but still accompanied by prayers for physical recovery as well as forgiveness of sins (11th c.)

- **Emphasis on remission of sins** and hope for salvation. (12th c.)

– **anointing of**

**the senses**, no longer just the body part which needed healing.

- Anointing becomes





family, this sacrament can sanctify illness.

It is appropriate that the name of the sacrament was restored after Vatican II. It is no longer called "extreme unction," since it is no longer reserved for last rites and the deathbed. It is not a sacrament only for the dying, but a sacrament to strength the living in their most difficult moments. The sacrament may be given multiple times to those who are seriously ill due to illness or advanced age.

The matter of the sacrament is oil – olive oil blessed by the Bishop at the Chrism Mass. The celebration of the sacrament consists especially in the laying on of hands, the offering of the prayer of faith, and the anointing.

As the priest says the first part of the formula, he

anoints the sick person's forehead. As he recites the second part, he anoints the sick person's hands. Depending on exceptional circumstances (such as a burn victim) he may also anoint any suitable body part instead of or in addition to the head and hands.

The revised rite provides a variety of prayers for various ages, conditions, and circumstances. The Pastoral Care of the Sick (1972, 1983) contains the rites to be used for the anointing of a sick person; it assumes regular, pastoral visits by the priest and the parish staff are already taking place, including Communion calls. It is fitting to celebrate this sacrament within a Eucharistic liturgy and to offer sacramental penance before Mass.

Viaticum ("provisions for the journey") is the name

we give to the final reception of the Eucharist by a dying person. It is the most appropriate last sacrament. The Pastoral Care of the Sick provides such rites for the dying, including a continuous rite of penance, anointing, and viaticum if the condition of the person permits.

As a community, we should regularly pray for the sick, especially in the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass. Eucharistic ministers should take Communion to those who are absent from our assemblies due to illness. Family members and healthcare workers offer physical comfort and healing. Many parishes have regular communal celebrations of the anointing of the sick – a wonderful opportunity for all of us to support those who share in the suffering of Christ.

## Who may receive the sacrament of the sick?

- Any member of the faithful whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age
  - Anyone facing surgery for a serious condition
  - People who suffer from chronic illness
  - People who suffer from mental illness
  - Elderly people if they have become noticeably weakened even though no serious illness is present
  - Sick children, if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by the sacrament
  - The sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers and then falls ill again or if the person's condition worsens
  - The sacrament may be conferred on a sick person who has lost consciousness, but who, as a Christian believer, at least implicitly asked for it when he/she was in control of his/her faculties
  - When a person is in danger of death from sickness or old age
- Pastoral Care of the Sick, nn. 8-15 (cf. Canons 1004.1 and 844.3,4,5)*

more dominant as last, deathbed ritual.



- **Peter Lombard** (Sentences, c 1158) includes anointing as **one of the seven official sacraments**. It was

"instituted for a dual purpose, ... for the remission of sins, and for the relief of bodily infirmity." He notes that it **may be repeated**.

### 13th-20th centuries

- **"Form"** varied, but **"matter"** (oil) was universally agreed upon.
- Only one priest, **ritual simplified** (13th c.)
- Anointing only when death was imminent
- Great debate about

difference of this sacrament from Penance

- **St. Thomas Aquinas** taught that the sacrament



removed remnants of sin. Council of Florence (1438-1445) defines essential elements of the sacrament.

- **Council of Trent** (1548-1563) 1 "a sacrament instituted by Christ our Lord" 2 grace of the sacrament removes sin 3 "raises up and strengthens soul of sick person," occasionally even bodily health to the sick 4 only given to those dangerously ill 5 priest is proper minister
- **1614 Ritual** – eliminates

abuses and gives elaborate rituals; person must have attained the age of reason to receive it. Ritual remains unchanged for centuries.

- **1747 – Benedict XIV** gives **plenary indulgence** to anyone who receives the sacrament



### Vatican II

- Liturgical and biblical scholarship enlightens theology and history of sacrament and **restores name** to reflect this – "anointing of the sick."
- **1972 – new rite** approved (revised again in 1983)
- Assumes previous visits

and pastoral care of the sick

- Provided rites for **various ages, conditions and circumstances**
- Added Scripture, song, responses, ritual
- **Participation of the community** stressed, including family, healthcare workers, and the parish community. Allows for regular communal celebrations with Bishop's permission.
- **Anointing of head and hands rather than senses**
- **Additional rite for emergencies** (imminent death); continuous rite of penance, anointing, (confirmation) and viaticum.



## St. Gabriel, the angel of mercy

**St. Gabriel the Archangel**

**Feast Day: Sept. 29**

**Patron saint of broadcasters, messengers, and those in communications**

**Canonization date: unknown**

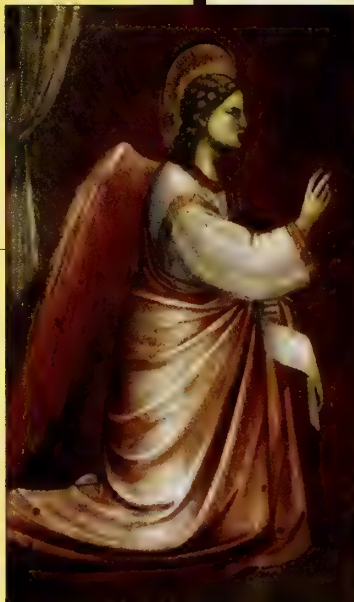
**Meaning of name: Hero of God, God's strength**

**Claim to fame:** He is often portrayed as God's messenger, although is only mentioned a few times in Scripture. St. Gabriel's debut appearance was when he visited the prophet Daniel to explain his visions of the Messiah. The angel made two appearances in the New Testament – the first to Zachariah. St. Gabriel told Zachariah he was going to have a son, John the Baptist, and then, when Zachariah did not believe St. Gabriel, the angel struck him mute. St. Gabriel is most widely known for his second appearance in the New Testament – his visit to Mary, when he told her God wanted her to be the mother of the Son of God. It is thought that St. Gabriel is also the angel who appeared in Joseph's dreams, telling him that Mary's unborn child was the Messiah, as this would have fit in his "messenger" job description. St. Gabriel is also traditionally thought to be the angel who visited Jesus during his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. The Jews view St. Gabriel as the angel of judgment, but Christians view him as the angel of mercy.

**Why he is a saint:** St. Gabriel is believed to be one of the seven archangels who stand before God and do his bidding. These are the highest-ranking angels in heaven. He is referred to as a saint because he is holy, and lives for the will of God, but differs from most other saints because he is not human.

**Best quote:** St. Gabriel is most famous for his announcement to Mary: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High."

**How he died:** He hasn't. Since St. Gabriel is an angel, he cannot die.



## San Gabriel Arcángel

**Santo patrón de los locutores, mensajeros y los que trabajan en comunicaciones**

**Fecha de canonización desconocida**

**Significado del nombre: Héroe de Dios, Fuerza de Dios**

**Día festivo: 29 de septiembre**

**Hechos que lo hicieron famoso:** A menudo se le representa como el mensajero de Dios, aunque él sólo hace unas pocas apariciones en la Biblia. La primera vino cuando Gabriel visitó al profeta Daniel para explicar sus visiones del Mesías. El ángel hizo dos apariciones en el Nuevo Testamento, la primera a Zacarías. Gabriel le dijo a Zacarías que iba a tener un hijo, Juan el Bautista, y entonces, cuando no quiso creerle a Gabriel, el ángel lo hizo enmudecer. A Gabriel se le conoce más ampliamente por su visita a María, cuando

le dijo que Dios quería que ella tuviera a Jesús, su hijo. Se piensa que Gabriel también es el ángel que se le apareció en sueños a José, diciéndole que María tendría el Hijo de Dios, puesto que esto se ajustaría a su descripción de trabajo como «mensajero». También, se piensa de Gabriel tradicionalmente como el ángel que visitó a Jesús durante su agonía en el Jardín de Getsemaní. Los judíos vieron a Gabriel como el ángel de juicio, pero los cristianos lo vieron como el ángel de misericordia.

**Por qué es un santo:** Se cree de Gabriel que es uno de los siete arcángeles que están frente a Dios y hacen lo que les pide. Estos son los ángeles de mayor rango en el cielo. Se piensa de él como un santo porque él es sagrado, y vive para la voluntad de Dios, pero difiere de la mayoría de los otros santos porque no es humano.

**Mejor cita:** Gabriel alcanza su mayor fama cuando le anuncia a María: «No temas, María porque has hallado gracia delante de Dios. Vas a concebir en el seno y vas a dar a luz un hijo, a quien pondrás por nombre Jesús. Él será grande y será llamado Hijo del Altísimo».

**Cómo murió:** No ha muerto. Puesto que Gabriel es un ángel, no puede morir.



## Thoughts on St. Paul

**O**ur Holy Father Benedict XVI has inaugurated The Year of St. Paul. He did this at an ecumenical gathering in the Papal Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. This was one of my favorite churches when I was a seminarian in Rome. St. Paul is buried under the High Altar of this Basilica. My chalice was blessed in this Basilica just prior to my ordination and it was here that I celebrated my first Mass. Each time I have returned to Rome I have celebrated Mass at this altar.

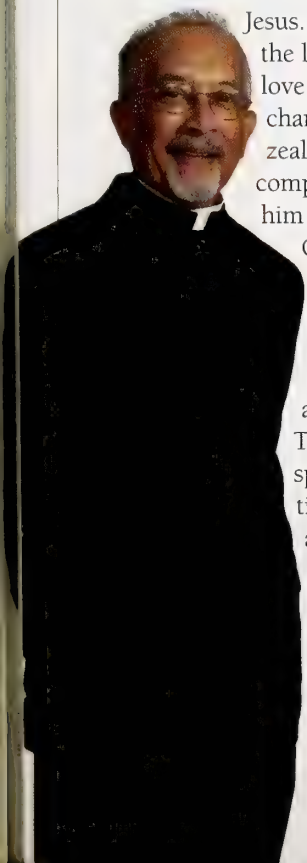
Paul is my middle name and I have devotion to this great preacher and teacher and missionary. In the A Cycle of Readings it is from St. Paul's letters that the Second Reading is taken.

During this Pauline Year I have decided to form my Sunday Homilies from the Pauline Readings. I have discovered that this requires more time and energy and prayer. St. Paul is such a deep believer and thinker. But I find that Paul's readings sing out to me and they also grab hold of my mind and heart.

The Letters of St. Paul show his love and passion for the Faith into which he was led by the direct intervention of Jesus. He constantly assures his readers of the love of God in Christ for those who love God. His encounter with Jesus totally changed the focus of his life. His great zeal for the proclamation of the Gospel completely filled his life. It ultimately led him to give up his life in proclaiming the Gospel.

A few Sundays ago, after the Mass which I celebrated at our Cathedral, a gentleman came up to me and said that he had never heard a homily based on Paul's writings. That made me sad. I think it would be spiritually rewarding if all of us took time each week to read and reread and pray and meditate on the Pauline Epistle of the Sunday of that week. Our prayer can be that of Paul in 2 Timothy: "Stir into flame the gift of God you have received...."

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden



## Llamados a evangelizar

**D**ios ha llamado a su pueblo para proclamar la Buena Nueva a toda la creación, en todos los tiempos y en todas las culturas. Lo hizo a través de San Pablo en su tiempo y en su mundo llegando a diferentes lugares creando nuevas comunidades de fe que dieron respuestas de conversión, de solidaridad y de fe.

Los misioneros de todos los tiempos han llegado a los lugares más alejados de nuestro planeta, plantando la fe, transformando las culturas y creando en las personas no solo el sentido de participar de un solo pueblo sino también de responder al mismo Dios.

Los bautizados estamos llamados hoy a participar de la Iglesia católica con la misma consciencia de San Pablo y de los misioneros de todas las épocas en unión con todas las personas responsables de la Iglesia. Seguimos teniendo pertenencia en el pueblo de Dios, seguimos siendo animados por el Espíritu Divino, seguimos siendo llamados a vivir como comunidad y hoy más que nunca, seguimos siendo invitados a ser ciudadanos del Reino de Dios, sirviendo en la caridad y participando en la celebración del Misterio Redentor de Cristo.

Por eso el encuentro de los jóvenes en Australia en los meses pasados, fue un llamado a la evangelización, el llamado urgente a los matrimonios a ser la primera Iglesia evangelizadora, donde se respete la vida, se consagre el amor y se crezca en los valores morales y religiosos.

La tarea de la Iglesia continúa en la catequesis de los niños, jóvenes y adultos que se acercan a las parroquias en busca de los sacramentos, de una formación continua de la fe y en busca del sentido de su vocación cristiana, para ser parte de la Iglesia, para vivir su espíritu de misioneros, testigos y colaboradores de la construcción del Reino de Dios.

Hoy se hace urgente la llamada a la Evangelización no solo para recordar el pasado, sino para hacer de nuestro presente la obra y la respuesta al Dios que nos llama a conocer y vivir su verdad, a construir su reino en el amor y la solidaridad y ha fortalecer el corazón de todos los fieles en la fe.

— Padre Fernando Torres





cover story  
by Rich Reece

# Empowered

Raleigh's World Youth Day Pilgrims Return as Witnesses to Holiness

## BY THE Spirit

**O**n a Saturday in July in the chapel of RDU International Airport, friends and families of six pilgrims leaving for World Youth Day (WYD) 2008 in Sydney, Australia, gathered for a prayerful send-off. Reflecting on previous WYDs which he had attended, Diocesan Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Mike Hagarty urged the pilgrims to “Pay attention. Look for holiness, because you will see it.”









Diocesan Director of Communications Frank Morock interviews Kellie Cook and John Walsh for *Catholic Perspective*, a weekly diocesan television program.

“**A**nd when you return,” Hagarty concluded, “be witnesses of that holiness for others.”

Ten days later, four of the pilgrims were at the Catholic Center in Raleigh doing just that.

“The love just poured out,” recalled John Walsh, a member of the youth ministry team at St. Mark Catholic Church in Wilmington. “It was overwhelming, and heartwarming. You could see Jesus Christ in every person there.”

WYD 2008 was the largest event of any kind that Australia has ever hosted. An estimated 350,000 Catholic young adults from some 170 countries attended its closing Mass, celebrated by His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI. The theme for this year's event comes from Jesus' words in Acts: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth.”

The four witnesses at the Raleigh gathering were Walsh, Kellie Cook and Mariana Luciani of St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church in Raleigh, and Nathaniel Duncombe of Sacred

Heart Cathedral Parish. They began by sharing their photos and stories of WYD with the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh. After meeting with the Bishop, they were interviewed and videotaped for *Catholic Perspective*, a weekly television production of the diocese. (Those interviews can be seen on the diocesan Web site. The links appear at [http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news/pilgrims\\_attend\\_wyd2008.aspx](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news/pilgrims_attend_wyd2008.aspx).)

As the pilgrims talked about their experience, several themes emerged. One was the thrill of seeing the Holy Father in person. The four had participated in the “boat-a-cade” following the Pope's boat on another vessel as he made his way across Sydney Harbor on the third day of the event. Giant television screens at all the venues where the Holy Father was present made it impossible not to be with him up close and personal, despite the crowds. “It was beyond words,” Mariana Luciani said. “We were all so excited when he would appear. And he looked so happy, glowing, just like all the pilgrims.”

“For Catholics,” Nathaniel Duncombe said,

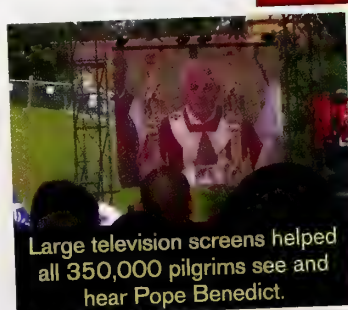
## The Holy Father on the Holy Spirit

My dear young friends, the Holy Spirit continues today to act with power in the Church, and the fruits of the Spirit are abundant in the measure in which we are ready to open up to this power that makes all things new. For this reason, it is important that each one of us know the Spirit, establish a relationship with Him and allow ourselves to be guided by Him. However, at this point a question naturally arises: Who is the Holy Spirit for me? It is a fact that for many Christians He is still the great unknown. This is why, as we prepare for the next World Youth Day, I wanted to invite you to come to know the Holy Spirit more deeply at a personal level.

In our profession of faith we proclaim: “I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.” Yes, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the love of the Father and of the Son, is the Source of life that makes us holy, “because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us” (Rom 5:5). Nevertheless, it is not enough to know the Spirit; we must welcome Him as the guide of our souls, as the “Teacher of the interior life” who introduces us to the Mystery of the Trinity, because He alone can open us up to faith and allow us to live it each day to the full. The Spirit impels us forward towards others, enkindles in us the fire of love, makes us missionaries of God's charity.

I know very well that you young people hold in your hearts great appreciation and love for Jesus, and that you desire to meet Him and speak with Him. Indeed, remember that it is precisely the presence of the Spirit within us that confirms, constitutes and builds our person on the very Person of Jesus crucified and risen. So let us become familiar with the Holy Spirit in order to be familiar with Jesus.

From the address of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI on the Occasion of World Youth Day XXIII, delivered July 20, 2007.





"he's our celebrity. Seeing this man you've heard of so many times was amazing." Asked how a man in his 80s could have so much appeal to youth, Duncombe replied, "I think he's young at heart. You can see that."

"Actually seeing the Holy Father," Luciani added, "brings you to a new level of confirmation in your spirituality."

She described being on a "God high," and that was a second theme of the event for all the pilgrims. Twenty-eight-year-old Kellie Cook had felt it as



The Raleigh pilgrims were at one point 25 feet from the Popemobile.

**"He spoke about the Holy Spirit as a person. And that was the experience you had with all these people. You could literally feel the presence of the Holy Spirit."**

a 13-year-old at WYD 1993 in Denver, Colo. "The theme was being transformed by the Holy Spirit," she said, echoing Luciani, "which is what happens in the Sacrament of Confirmation, but this was way beyond that."

John Walsh recalled hearing Bishop Michael J. Sheridan of Colorado Springs, Colo.: "He spoke about the Holy Spirit as a person. And that was the experience you had with all those people. You could literally feel the presence of the Holy Spirit."

Duncombe remembered a moment



Raleigh WYD pilgrims in Sydney. Left to right: Ian Rothfuss, Katie McIlmoyle, Mariana Luciani, Kellie Cook, Josh Kugler and Nathaniel Duncombe.

when a group of Polish pilgrims started to sing, "If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands," and suddenly everyone was joining in. "We shared the love," Duncombe said.

The international crowd – such a diverse multitude with a common purpose – sparked another feeling that all the pilgrims reported. "There was a universal pride in being Catholic that transcended national pride," Kellie Cook said. "I've never been more proud to be Catholic in all my life."

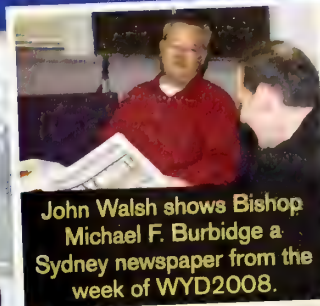
One of the most moving events for the pilgrims was the Living Stations of the Cross, a live theatrical and devotional reenactment of the last days of Jesus' life against the backdrop of Sydney Harbor. "I was in tears," Luciani recalled. "It reminded me of *The Passion of the Christ*."

Back in Raleigh, the pilgrims were still digesting the messages they had

heard from the Holy Father and others, still considering ways they could become the effective witnesses the experience had inspired them to be.

In an address in Rome on his return, the Holy Father spoke of how he, too, had been moved by the event. "I still have this extraordinary occasion," he said, "in which I experienced the youthful face of the Church, on my mind and in my heart: It was like a multicolored mosaic, formed by young men and women from every part of the globe, all gathered together in the one faith in Jesus Christ.

"Young pilgrims of the world" – this is what the people called them, a beautiful expression that captures the essential in these international meetings initiated by John Paul II. These gatherings, in fact, form the stages of a great pilgrimage across the world, to show how faith in Christ makes us all children of one Father who is in heaven and builders of a civilization of love."



John Walsh shows Bishop Michael F. Burbidge a Sydney newspaper from the week of WYD2008.

## The Next World Youth Day: Madrid, 2011

At the close of WYD2008, Pope Benedict announced that Madrid, Spain would host the next World Youth Day August 15-21, 2011.





## Day of Discernment, New Track Set for Permanent Diaconate

►► Nov. 8 will be a Day of Recollection and Discernment for any Catholic man interested in becoming a candidate for the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Raleigh. This retreat day will be held at St. Mary Catholic Church, Mount Olive, NC, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Father James F. Garneau, Ph.D., V.F., Pastor of St. Mary Parish in Mt. Olive and Diocesan Director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate, said that the November Discernment Day is not an occasion for formal application to the diaconate program, but rather will be the first in a series of opportunities for men discerning vocations as deacons to receive spiritual assistance and direction.

Father Garneau also announced the establishment of a new formation track in Spanish for men seeking to become deacons. "The Spanish-language track is being initiated with the strong endorsement of the Diocesan Priests' Council and with the mandate of Bishop Michael F. Burbidge," Father Garneau said.

In September, letters will be sent to all pastors in the Diocese asking them to invite Hispanic men who have evinced leadership and attachment to Gospel life to consider the call to the diaconate. Candidates must be U.S. citizens or have valid visas for U.S. residency and have a high school degree or its equivalent. "It's important that we seek pastors' help in the discernment of candidates," Father Garneau said, "because even though a deacon may eventually be assigned to duties outside of his home parish, the pastors are the among the principal mentors of the men during their period of formation."

Deacons prepare for five years before ordination; there is a year of aspirancy and discernment, followed by four years of theological and pastoral formation. The Diocese has 15 diaconal candidates in their fourth year of preparation. (Two of these men are native Spanish-speakers.) The candidates' theological training involves one weekend a month,



and takes place on the campus of Mount Olive College, an institution founded in 1951 by the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Father Garneau is an adjunct professor of history and religion at the college, and there has been a history of friendly collaboration between the college and the local parish.

Father Garneau emphasized the need for English-speaking deacons as well, encouraging all men interested in the diaconate to attend the November Day of Recollection and Discernment, but said that the Diaconate Office does not have the financial and personnel resources to fund three tracks of formation simultaneously. Costs include reimbursement for instructors, materials, and the expense of psychological screening of candidates. It is hoped that the next track in English will begin when the current men in preparation are ordained. As the number of Catholics in the Diocese — many of them Spanish-speaking — has risen, Father Garneau said, "The Diocese is experiencing an increasing need for deacons, a need articulated by the priests council and

the Bishop. At the same time, pastors have noted a surge in the number of men expressing interest in discerning vocations as permanent deacons."

The value of the diaconate to the Church and its faithful cannot be overestimated, Father Garneau said: "If a priest is ordained in the person of Christ, the head of the Church, the deacon is ordained in the person of Christ, the servant, to be a special sacramental witness, who reaches out to the marginalized, the poor, and the suffering, showing them that Christ is with them and for them."

Deacons may engage in a variety of ministries — to prisoners, to migrants, to the sick — to instruct, comfort and evangelize. "All this is reflected at the altar of the Eucharistic Sacrifice," Father Garneau said, "where the deacon serves and proclaims the Gospel."

At the November Day of Recollection and Discernment, a \$10 offering will be requested from each participant. Lunch will be provided. St. Mary Catholic Church is located at 313 West Main St., Mount Olive, N.C. 28365. To register, contact Eric T. Brown, M.T.S., at 919.658.4023.



## St. Eugene's International Food Festival: how it's grown!

►► In 2003, parishioners of St. Eugene Catho-

lic Church in Wendell, along with their two priests, Father Charles Phukuta Khonde, CICM, and Father Mel Portula, CICM, were brainstorming an event to bring the parish closer together. "We wanted to celebrate our church community," says Eugene Zack, the coordinator for this year's festival, "and we wanted to share it with the whole community around us."

Father Charles had conducted a church carnival at his previous parish in Texas, featuring games for children and a raffle. The St. Eugene group decided to add food and entertainment to the mix. "Since we are blessed with a diverse cultural base of parishioners," Zack recalled, "it was suggested that people break into groups to prepare food representing either their nation of ancestry or their recent homeland. So we named it the International Food Festival."

The event, was held in Wendell's town square. A park stage showcased ethnic dance and a few musical acts to further demonstrate the diversity of the parish.

The second year introduced an information booth with maps and details of the day's events and food choices. "We also increased the number of games for the kids and introduced an organized silent auction, and more dancing and music supported by our parishioners," Zack says. As the years went by, events were moved, added or subtracted, and the festival became an annual fixture in Wendell on the third week of September.

Now in its sixth year, the event will henceforth be called the International Food and Music Festival, and it draws participants from the entire Wendell community and surrounding areas.

"This year will see the return of our youth ensemble to lead us in a spiritual set of songs," Zack says. "We will continue to have dancers from a variety of cultures, as well as the bands Shine, Polka Plus and international recording artist Jaime Cortez. There will be a fun selection of games for the kids, the usual impressive array of food choices, and some great raffle prizes, including \$1,000 cash and a washer and dryer."

Besides forging a strong multicultural church community and a bond with the town of Wendell, the festival has raised funds each year targeted for specific parish needs, and enabled donations to causes such as Katrina relief, Tsunami Aid, and organizations such as Missionhurst, Catholic Charities and the Wendell Council of Churches.

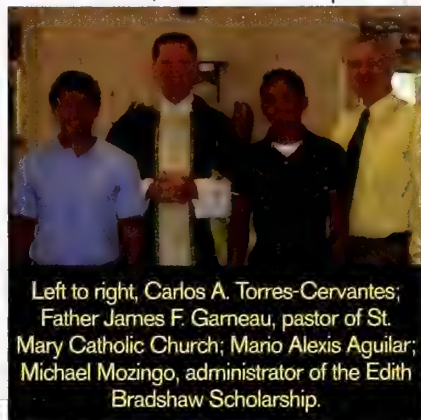
This year's festival will be Sept. 20 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at J. Ashley Wall Town Square in Wendell. Admission is free. For more information and raffle tickets contact St. Eugene Catholic Church at 919.365.7114 or visit: thefoodfestival.com and click on International Food Festival.

## Edith Bradshaw scholarships awarded in Mount Olive

►► In August, following a Mass at St. Mary Catholic Church in Mt. Olive, two young men received \$500 scholarships for the 2008-2009

school year. Mario Alexis Aguilar is a resident of Mount Olive and member of St. Mary's. He plans to attend Mount Olive College, where he will major in computer information systems. Carlos A. Torres-Cervantes resides in Clinton and plans to attend N.C. State Uni-

versity where he will major in design. Carlos is a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Clinton. The Edith Bradshaw Scholarship was established in 2003 by Michael Mozingo in honor of his mother, who died in 2001, and is awarded to graduating seniors from the Catholic churches in Mt. Olive and Clinton. Mozingo was cantor at Immaculate Conception for 12 years, a ministry he now practices at St. Mary.



Left to right, Carlos A. Torres-Cervantes; Father James F. Garneau, pastor of St. Mary Catholic Church; Mario Alexis Aguilar; Michael Mozingo, administrator of the Edith Bradshaw Scholarship.

## St. Stanislaus announces 11th annual Polish Festival

►► For the 11th consecutive year, people will be arriving from all over North Carolina and neighboring states for the annual Polish Festival at St. Stanislaus Church in Castle Hayne, N.C. This family-fun event will be held on



Parishioners of St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Castle Hayne, NC, hard at work at the church's annual Polish Festival.

Saturday, Nov. 1 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the church grounds, 4849 Castle Hayne Road (Hwy 117). Visitors will enjoy authentic Polish foods

including pierogi, kielbasa, stuffed cabbage and potato pancakes. The dessert menu offers poppyseed rolls, nut rolls, and a vast assortment of home baked goods. The Polka Plus Band of Raleigh will perform from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entertainment for the children includes pony rides, face painting and games. The Festival also offers craft and souvenir booths, a silent auction and a raffle. There is no admission, and plenty of free parking. For more information, call 910-675-2336, or visit: [www.ststanspolishfestival.org](http://www.ststanspolishfestival.org).



Diocesan-wide education and training programs to parents, teachers and volunteers, everyone who had regular contact with minors, so that they would recognize the signs of child abuse and respond appropriately. We took steps to work with law enforcement officials and agencies such as Prevent Child Abuse, North Carolina, to establish the Office for

Child and Youth Protection, appoint a competent and impartial Diocesan Review Board, to advise the Bishop and oversee and monitor the effects of our efforts' and ultimately to be accountable for full and ongoing compliance with the Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

►► You've traveled the highways and back roads of eastern North Carolina visiting parishes with as few as a handful of families. Did you ever imagine you would see the growth that is now taking place not only in our larger cities, but in our small rural communities? What are your thoughts about the increase of Catholics in NC?

I'm sure that when I came here in 1975 I never imagined the growth now taking place. The increase in our Catholic population is indeed of gift of God but a gift that will make ever increasing demands on our dedication, resources, creativity and generosity.

►► Was there one highlight of your years as Bishop of Raleigh, something that stands out?

I cannot say there was one highlight that stands out above all others. There were so many. But here are some, not necessarily in the order of their importance: The signing of the Covenant between the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Roman Catholic Church in the Dioceses of Charlotte and Raleigh, 17 years ago.

**"It was imperative that we provide Diocesan-wide education and training programs to parents, teachers and volunteers, everyone who had regular contact with minors, so that they would recognize the signs of child abuse and respond appropriately."**

and the ordination of the first class of permanent deacons. The first BAA. (It went over the goal and I didn't expect it to.) The celebrations of our anniversaries, mine and the Diocese's, in 1980, 1993, 1999. My installation in 1975 and the installation of Bishop Burbidge in 2006. The farewell deanery dinners with the priests and people and the many tributes I received on my retirement.

The endorsement of the Finance Council for the forgiveness of \$200,000 in parish debt. Every priestly Ordination. Being received into the Franciscan community. And the Noah's Ark I received from the Catholic Center staff as a Christmas present. The list could go on and on. I have been singularly blessed by God.

►► What do you think will be the biggest challenge for our Diocese in the next ten years?

There will be many challenges facing the Church in the Diocese in the future. Some of them will be new, others will be familiar. But there is one of paramount importance, one that must be addressed over all the rest, and that is the challenge of increasing vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Bishop Burbidge has made vocations a priority of his episcopacy and we must support him with our constant prayers that the Lord will see fit "to send laborers into the harvest." In addition to

The agreement between FLOC, the Growers Association and the union. The reception of the Pastoral Letter, *Of One Heart and One Mind*. Parish visitations, confirmations and church dedications. The success of our first audit of compliance with the Bishop's Charter. The Chrism Masses and the annual priests' retreat. The acceptance of Pastoral Administrators in the Diocese

praying we must also do our part to encourage young people, at a reasonably early age, to seriously consider becoming priests and consecrated religious. Parents, grandparents, teachers, priests and religious should not hesitate to engage young people in conversations about listening for God's call to His service. And we who are priests must let our young men see that the

priesthood is at least as exciting and important as being a neurosurgeon or astronaut or brilliant attorney, and every bit as necessary, in fact, more.

Father Robert Barron has written that if the priesthood did not exist, people would have invented it. "For

simply put, the priest must be, in the richest sense possible, spiritual director, mystical guide, doctor of souls... for it is precisely the parish priest who has the most contact with, and influence upon, the people of God."

ence upon, the people of God." As Cardinal Bernardin said, "We are not dispensable 'functionaries in the Church; we are bridges to the very mystery of God and healers of souls... dependent on the Lord Jesus (who is the mystery of God and the healer of the soul) to whom we are irrevocably united through ordination and whom we make present in a tangible and inviting way each day to the countless people we serve."

Demanding? Yes. Exhausting? Sometimes. Frightening? On occasion. Dull and boring? Never. I was in the seventh grade when I told my parents that I wanted to be a priest. I have never wanted to be anything else. In a life that has been crowded with blessings, God's call to be His priest remains today, as it has always been, the greatest gift of all.

**"The priest must be, in the richest sense possible, spiritual director, mystical guide, doctor of souls... for it is precisely the parish priest who has the most contact with, and influence upon, the people of God."**

**Demanding? Yes. Exhausting? Sometimes. Frightening? On occasion. Dull and boring? Never.**



## Father Carlos N. Arce Appointed Vicar for Hispanics

►► Effective July 8, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge appointed Father Carlos N. Arce the first full-time Vicar for Hispanics for the Diocese of Raleigh. A native of Nicaragua, Father Arce understands the immigrant experience. "I was an immigrant in Honduras," he explains. "We moved because of civil war."

For five years, Father Arce has used that experience in the diocese: in Burlington, New Bern, Oriental and most recently in ministry to the largely Hispanic congregation of St. Andrew Mission in Red Springs, NC.

As Vicar, Father Arce sees his primary goal as helping the Bishop to reach Diocesan goals involving Hispanic ministry. This goal entails serving as a bridge between Hispanics and other groups and organizations, and supporting and working for social justice. "We cannot preach the Gospel," Father Arce explains, "if we do not care about

human conditions. I can't say, 'God loves you' if I don't love you too."

Father Arce saw the kind of injustice faced by immigrants firsthand in Red Springs, when he was asked by members of St. Andrew to mediate a dispute in November 2006 between approximately 1,000 workers and management at the Smithfield Packing Company. Two months later, Father

Arce was again involved at Smithfield, this time between the plant and the families of 21 workers who were arrested at work and deported as illegal immigrants. That day, the workers simply didn't come home. Nothing was explained to their families and the company took no responsibility for their welfare, even though some of the workers had been employed there for more than 10 years.

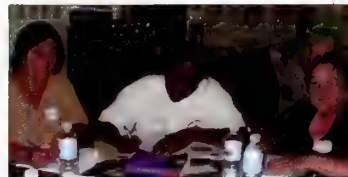
As he explains the events of those months, the priest controls his indignation at the dishonest and callous treatment he saw visited on undocumented workers by their employer. "No human being is 'illegal,'" he says. "For Christians, it is the law of law that is most important: What Jesus wants, and that is for us to love one another."

In his statement appointing Father Arce as Vicar, Bishop Burbidge praised his "profound love for the Lord Jesus and His Church" and his "deep concern for the people he is sent to serve."

"The Hispanic community is dear to my heart," the Bishop continued, "and is a tremendous blessing to the Diocese and the entire Church. I am confident Father Carlos will be a wonderful vicar and a special gift to the Hispanic community. I assure him of my full support and constant prayers."

## Catechists attend formation program

►► On August 3-8, 26 parish catechists and Catholic school teachers from the Diocese of Raleigh participated in the "Into the Fields" formation program. Seventeen participants received certificates of completion in their third year of the week-long format held at Christian Family Living Center, Topsail Beach.



The program consists of three components: lessons from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, spiritual and personal growth, and teaching methods – all of which assist catechists and teachers to be confident and competent in their catechetical ministry. "Into the Fields" was funded by the Mary Dowling Endowment for Catechist Formation.

## Diocesan faithful generous to Retired Religious

►► In a letter from the National Religious Retirement Office, Executive Director Sister Janice Bader, CPPS, expressed profound gratitude to the faithful of the Diocese of Raleigh. Their contributions to the annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious in 2007 totaled \$217,013. "Your generosity," Sister Bader wrote, "helps to provide care for more than 37,500 religious in the U.S. who are past age 70, including more than 4,900 who need skilled nursing care. These men and women pray daily for your intentions, asking God to bless you abundantly."

## St. Mark youth on a mission in D.C.

►► In July, teenagers from the youth ministry group of St. Mark Catholic Church in Wilmington journeyed to Washington, D.C., for a week to work in the "Young Neighbors in Action" Program out of the Center for Ministry Development. They volunteered at UCAP, United Community Against Poverty, working with children from 3-months-old through high school who are victims of abuse and poverty. In the evenings, the group reflected on the seven major themes of Catholic social teaching. Many of the youth are planning to volunteer in the program again next summer.



## BAA update

►► As of August 6, more than 27,300 parishioners in the diocese had pledged \$6,418,976 to the 2008 Bishop's Annual Appeal. All but six parishes have reached their goal, and the overall goal for the BAA this year was \$4,903,480.



Father Carlos N. Arce.



# Querido lector de NCC

Por: Padre Jonathan A. Woodhall

**Querido lector: Desde que el Santo Padre proclamó el año de San Pablo, me pregunto: ¿De qué manera puedo aprender más sobre San Pablo?**

**D**espués de la proclamación del Papa Benedicto, los católicos y ciertamente, todos los cristianos, celebrarán el aniversario de los dos mil años de la fecha del nacimiento de San Pablo, mediante el estudio de sus cartas y oraciones durante todo el año 2008-2009. Los expertos en estudios religiosos sitúan el nacimiento de Pablo entre los años 5 y 10 después de Cristo en el Tarso, una ciudad localizada en la actual Turquía. Pablo nació en una familia judía en la Diáspora (se refiere al exilio judío fuera de la Tierra de Santa) y algunos miembros de su familia eran ciudadanos Romanos. Su nombre judío era Saulo, y su nombre romano es Pablo.

Por su ciudadanía romana, los expertos piensan que Pablo proviene de un ambiente privilegiado y educado, además, Pablo mismo nos dice que él proviene de una familia farisea muy religiosa. Para muchos cristianos, la palabra "fariseo" denota "hipocresía" pero en realidad la gran mayoría de los fariseos estaba constituido por judíos muy devotos quienes vivían apegados a las leyes, y no tanto al espíritu de las leyes de Moisés.

Para entender a Pablo, es necesario leer sus cartas: Gálatas es su autobiografía, también su vida y viajes están narrados en los Hechos de los Apóstoles. Sin embargo, recordemos que Hechos fue escrito mucho tiempo después de la muerte de

Pablo, y tomemos en cuenta que esos eventos relatados tienen un tinte más idealizado que histórico.

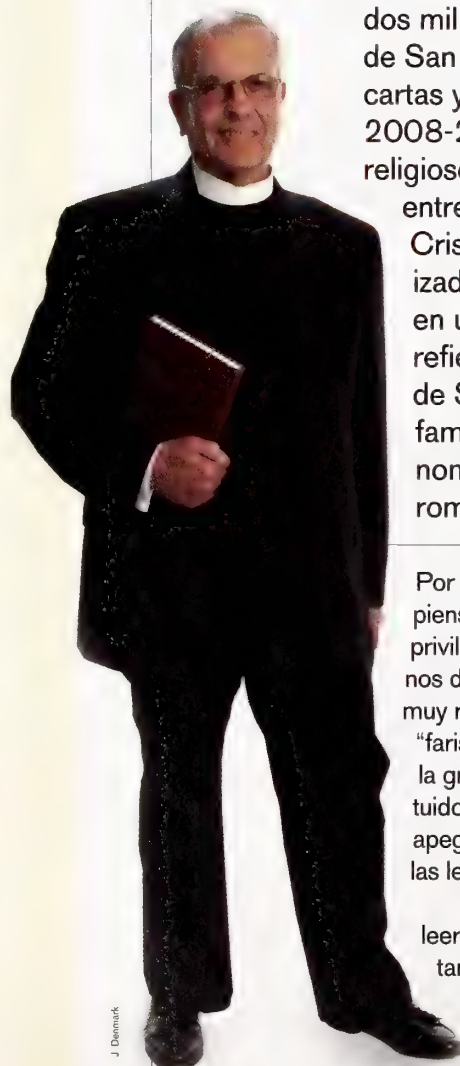
Algunas veces el cristiano podría preguntarse con frecuencia, por qué no escribió sobre la vida, el ministerio o quizás acerca de la palabra de Jesús, al igual que en los evangelios; pero el enfoque de las cartas de Pablo era hacia las comunidades individuales de cristianos, solo con excepción de la carta a Filemón. Esas comunidades enfrentaban serias dificultades y él escribió cartas de aliento, de ética, y algunas veces, referente a las malas creencias o comportamientos inmorales.

Pablo escribió sus cartas basadas en su creencia de la importancia de la venida de Jesús a este mundo, en otras palabras, Pablo se concentró en lo que nosotros llamamos "los eventos de Cristo" en la reflexión teológica y no en la escritura de relatos. Nosotros preferimos escuchar historias sobre Jesús, pero para Pablo, para la Iglesia primitiva y para las creencias de la iglesia católica del siglo XXI, saber quién es Jesús y por qué es importante para los cristianos; en mi opinión personal y para el mundo en general, son las bases de nuestra fe cristiana.

La pregunta referente a cómo se debe estudiar a San Pablo se puede convertir en un desafío para cualquier persona. Muchos se pueden preguntar: ¿Será que abro el Nuevo Testamento y comienzo a leer la primera carta de Pablo a los Romanos? Yo sugiero que no comiencen con la carta a los Romanos, porque es la carta más larga y complicada que escribió, probablemente una de sus últimas cartas.

Las cartas de Pablo incluidas en el Nuevo Testamento no son por orden cronológico sino por la duración de la misma: Romanos es la más larga, y Filemón es la más breve. Además, sus cartas pastorales 1 y 2, Timoteo y Tito, plasman su pensamiento, pero quizás fueron escritas por sus discípulos con la intención de transmitir la orden de la Iglesia como resultado de las enseñanzas de Pablo. Seguramente sus discípulos también redactaron 2 Tesalonicenses, Colosenses y Efesios. Estas seis cartas de las cuales muchos expertos bíblicos todavía se disputan la autoría de éstas, sin embargo reflejan el genuino pensamiento Paulino y se deben tomar con seriedad por todos los cristianos.

Tampoco existe ningún sustituto para estos pasajes, pero quizás se podría comenzar por 1 Tesalonicenses, posiblemente una de sus primeras cartas, que data alrededor del año 51 y describen tensiones entre la comunidad, porque algunos de sus miembros murieron antes de la segunda llegada de Cristo; luego continuar con 1 y 2 Corintios que habla de los verdaderos cristianos tratando de vivir en el mundo real, seguido de Gálatas que contiene una autobiografía y la importancia de la libertad como resultado de la fe en Jesús. Filipenses debe



J. Drenick



## El cuadragésimo aniversario de la ordenación del Obispo Gossman

leerse como una experiencia espiritual de la dicha de ser cristiano, seguido por la carta a Filemón, quien acepta la esclavitud como una institución social de la época, y finalizando con la carta a los Romanos, escrita en su viaje anticipado a la comunidad, explicando como Pablo entiende la profundidad de los eventos cristianos para todo el pueblo. Esta secuencia general de lecturas puede servir de utilidad a la hora de estudiar al Apóstol de las Naciones.

Algunas Biblias ofrecen una introducción a las cartas de Pablo y algunas notas para los lectores, tal es el caso de la Nueva Biblia Americana, la cual ofrece a las personas un material de ayuda para entender el pensamiento paulino. Todas las cartas están dirigidas a una situación particular, y es importante entender el contexto de las Escrituras para evitar la mala interpretación de las mismas. Todo lo escrito por Pablo y transmitido por sus discípulos es de utilidad para todos los cristianos incluso 2000 años más tarde, sin embargo, no se puede conseguir respuesta exacta a todas las situaciones de hoy en día excepto de una manera general.

Asimismo, mucho del material espiritual y de estudio se encuentra disponible durante este año Paulino, y el sitio Web de la Diócesis, dispone de buen material para comenzar.

Leer con detenimiento un pasaje de Pablo, luego reflexionar y orar por un corto periodo de tiempo, quizás de unos 15 minutos, puede resultar en una experiencia espiritual gratificante; pero como todo, el éxito de las oraciones requiere de mucha disciplina. Les aconsejo que lean a Pablo con regularidad para experimentar la grandeza de sus pensamientos.

— El Padre Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D., jubilado de la Diócesis, es Director de la Oficina de Diaconato Permanente y miembro de la facultad adjunta del Seminario de St. Mary en Baltimore, MD.

**A**l recibir la noticia de mi nombramiento como Obispo de Raleigh por el Santo Padre en el 2006, inmediatamente llamé al Obispo Gossman, quien se alegró mucho por la noticia, y me ofreció todo su apoyo incondicional. Esas palabras significaron mucho para mí.



El día de mi nombramiento oficial a la prensa, el Obispo Gossman y yo aparecimos por primera vez en público. Las preguntas que nos realizaron, aunque respetuosas, reflejaban la intención de enfatizar las diferencias entre ambos. En realidad no hay nada de malo en recalcar las diferencias de cada uno, porque todos tenemos dones diferentes para servir al Señor, desde el momento en que Jesús realizó el llamado a sus primeros discípulos. Sin embargo, el Obispo Gossman y yo, enfatizamos nuestras similitudes ya que compartimos un profundo amor por el Señor y Su iglesia para servir a Su Pueblo.

Nosotros creemos con firmeza que el Señor nos envía y nos sustenta; esa verdad se expresa claramente en el Concilio del Vaticano II: "Los Obispos, como sucesores de los apóstoles, reciban del Señor, el todopoderoso del cielo y la tierra, la misión de enseñar a todas las naciones y de predicar el Evangelio a todas las criaturas.... Para satisfacer la misión, que Cristo nuestro Señor prometió al Espíritu Santo" (Lumen Gentium, 24). En el 2006, el Papa Benedicto XVI recaló que en Su nombre todo es posible: A través de sucesiones apostólicas, es Cristo quien nos ayuda. En palabras de los Apóstoles y sus sucesores, es Él quien nos habla por medio de sus manos, es Él quien actúa en los Sacramentos, es Su mirar que nos abarca y nos hace sentir amados y recibidos en el corazón de Dios. Incluso hoy en día, como lo fue al comienzo de los tiempos Cristo es el verdadero Pastor y Guardián de nuestras almas, al cual seguimos con confianza, gratitud y dicha.

En el discurso de nuestro Santo Padre a los Obispos durante su visitas pastoral a los Estados Unidos, el Obispo Gossman y yo tuvimos el privilegio de sentarnos uno al lado del otro para escuchar las palabras del Papa Benedicto: "A cualquier hora y en cualquier lugar la Iglesia hace un llamado a la unidad a través de la constante conversión a Cristo, cuya

salvación es proclamada por los Sucesores de los Apóstoles en celebración de los Sacramentos. Esta unidad, en cambio, incrementa el trabajo misionero cuando el Espíritu estimula a los creyentes para que proclamen la gran obra de Dios." Es mi esperanza que todos en nuestra Diócesis reconozcamos y celebremos la unidad que el Obispo Gossman y yo compartimos con nuestros hermanos obispos al igual que la unidad esa unidad que tenemos como hermanos y hermanos en Cristo como miembros de la Sagrada Familia de Dios.

Además del constante apoyo y sabio consejo del Obispo Gossman, estoy muy agradecido por su extraordinario ejemplo. Su lema episcopal de "Servir y no ser servido" ha sido puesto en manifiesto no solo a lo largo de sus años como Obispo, sino también a lo largo de todo su sacerdocio. Me siento inspirado por su gran compromiso a la oración, su humildad, simplicidad y por su generoso servicio. En estos dos años, he llegado a conocerlo, al igual que ustedes lo han hecho en todos estos años, como un gentil, querido y sabio pastor.

Es un don especial para nuestra Diócesis y toda la Iglesia la celebración del cuadragésimo aniversario de la ordenación del Obispo Gossman. Es un momento especial para agradecer a Dios por las bendiciones que el ha derramado sobre el Obispo Gossman durante todos estos años, al permitirle servir en la Diócesis de Raleigh por 31 años y por darle la fuerza y la gracia de continuar al servicio de todos. Celebramos la dedicación del Obispo Gossman y también renovemos nuestra promesa a la vocación que Dios nos ha encomendado. Nos unimos para expresar nuestros mejores deseos al Obispo Gossman y oremos por la intercesión de María y con la gracia de Dios, él continuará imitando a Jesucristo, nuestro fiel Pastor y Guardián. ¡Reciba nuestras más sinceras felicitaciones y que Dios lo bendiga siempre!

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh



## Día de discernimiento: nuevo programa para el Diaconato permanente

► El 8 de noviembre, es el día pautado para todo hombre católico interesado en formar parte del diaconato permanente de la Diócesis de Raleigh. El retiro se llevará a cabo en la iglesia de St. Mary, Mount Olive, en Carolina del Norte de 10 de la mañana a 2 de la tarde.

El Padre James F. Garneau, Ph.D, V.F, párroco de la comunidad de St Mary en Mt Olive y Director de la oficina de diaconato permanente, comentó que el día de discernimiento no es una ocasión formal para ingresar al programa de diaconato, se trata de un serie de oportunidades de discernimiento para que los hombres en su vocación de Diáconos y recibir asistencia espiritual.

El Padre Garneau también anunció el establecimiento de un programa en español para aquellos hombres que desean ser diáconos: -El programa en español fue una iniciativa del Concejo de Sacerdotes Diocesanos y por mandato del Obispo Michael F. Burbidge – comentó el Padre Garneau.

En septiembre, se enviarán una serie de cartas a todos los párrocos de la Diócesis realizando un llamado a todos los hombres hispanos dedicados a la vida del evangelio, a considerar el llamado al diaconato. Los candidatos deberán ser ciudadanos estadounidenses o ser residentes legales, y tener diploma de secundaria o su equivalente: -es importante que busquemos ayuda pastoral en el discernimiento de los candidatos –comenta el Padre Garneau – porque incluso los diáconos podrían ser asignados a otras parroquias fuera de la comunidad, y los párrocos son los principales mentores de estos hombres durante su formación.

Los diáconos se preparan por cinco años antes de la ordenación, un año para discernir, y otros cuatro para su formación pastoral y teológica. La



Diócesis cuenta con 15 candidatos al diaconato en el periodo de formación de cuatro años (dos de estos hombres son hispanos.) El entrenamiento de los candidatos es de una semana al mes en la universidad de Mount Olive, institución creada en 1951 por la Convención Bautista de Libre Albedrio, donde el Padre Garneau es profesor de historia y religión.

El Padre Garneau insta a los hombres de habla inglesa a que asistan al día de discernimiento, pero aclara que la Oficina de Diaconato no cuenta con los recursos necesarios para costear tres programas de formación simultáneamente. El costo del programa incluye el reembolso a los instructores, el material, y el costo del examen psicológico para los candidatos. Se espera que el próximo programa en inglés comience después de la ordenación de los candidatos actuales.

El número de católicos ha aumentado, en su mayoría de habla hispana: -la diócesis necesita un incremento de diáconos, y dicha necesidad fue expresada por los sacerdotes del concejo y por el

mismo Obispo. Al mismo tiempo, los párrocos han presenciado un incremento de hombres interesados en discernir su vocación como diáconos permanentes – comentó el Padre Garneau:

El valor del diaconato a la iglesia y a sus fieles es incalculable: -Si un sacerdote ordenado en la persona de Cristo, es testigo de un sacramento especial, recibe la manera de ayudar al más necesitado, al que sufre, al pobre, y así demostrarles que Cristo siempre está con ellos. Los diáconos pueden desempeñarse en diferentes ministerios: con prisioneros, inmigrantes, enfermos, instructores, etc. Todo esto se ve reflejado en el sacrificio eucarístico, donde el diacono sirve y proclama el evangelio comenta el Padre Garneau.

Se recolectará una cantidad de \$10 por participante el día de discernimiento en noviembre que incluye el almuerzo. La Iglesia católica de St Mary está ubicada en 313 West Main St., Mount Olive, NC 28365. Para inscribirse, comuníquese con Eric T. Brown, M,T,S por el siguiente teléfono 919.658-4023.



**P**atrick and Eileen have been married for 30 years. Their daughter recently had a baby girl – Patrick's and Eileen's first grandchild. But now they have to decide what being a grandparent really means.

## Finally, a grandchild! I can't wait to baby-sit.

### she says

**Eileen says:** I was absolutely thrilled when our daughter, Karen, had a baby. Finally, we get the chance to be grandparents – and to have a baby in the house again. Karen is going back to work in three months and asked me if I could provide child care. I'd love to, but Patrick acts as if I've lost my mind.

## We've already raised our children – it's not our turn

### he says

**Patrick says:** Sometimes, I do think Eileen has lost her mind. I love my children and I love my new granddaughter. But we are finished with child-rearing – it's not our turn anymore. Doesn't Eileen remember how exhausting it is to answer an infant's every demand, to chase after a toddler? I do not want a house full of playpens and high chairs – no daycare!

### what do they do?

Having experienced a similar situation with our grandchildren, we can expertly say there is no easy solution! It is solvable, but it takes considerable discussion and communication between Patrick and Eileen first – and then with Karen and her husband. Patrick and Eileen need to share their feelings about parenthood, remembering back to when Karen and her siblings were small and needing constant care. Then they need to evaluate their current health and capabilities (mental and physical) and the circumstance at this time in their lives. Are they retired or soon to retire, or do they live a very active lifestyle where added child care would be disruptive and become counterproductive to their marriage relationship?

Being a grandparent is wonderful and a blessing. You have all the pleasures of being around small children again – playing childhood games, reading children's stories, watching them grow and expand their horizons and being a wisdom person to them. You have greater patience with



He said  
She said  
what do they do?

grandchildren and, in some cases, you have the luxury of handing them back over to their parents when you get tired. But not always!

Patrick has a point; he and Eileen have finished their primary child rearing. However, it is also true that grandparents have additional responsibilities and the opportunity to participate in child rearing in a way that is different from being a parent. Grandparents are an integral component of a child's sphere of influence. Grandparents are in a unique position to offer advice, provide wisdom and become a safe haven for their grandchildren. They can be sources of inspiration, encouragement, stability and holiness for grandchildren who may not experience it from their parents. Applied broadly, child rearing is never complete as long as there is still one child on this earth. God has blessed society with children, and it is up to each human adult to help these young children grow into maturity and be people of faith and good citizens in the kingdom of God.

Prior to committing to full-time child care for their grandchildren, Patrick and Eileen would be wise to establish specific boundaries. Parents should recognize and respect that grandparent is not synonymous with free baby-sitter. We recommend that Patrick and Eileen start out part time, temporary, emergency care providers. This will give them the time to determine if this is a good fit for their marriage relationship. Even after 30 years, their marriage relationship comes first – first before parenthood and first before grandparenthood. Patrick's and Eileen's love for each other and their commitment to each other is the very thing they need to pass on to their own children and grandchildren.

– Tom and JoAnne Fogle





**I**n the early 1980s, Apex, N.C., was a small town with a population of 3,192, and less than three percent of the area was Catholic. When a group from St. Michael the Archangel parish in Cary instigated a new parish in Apex, it was referred to as the Apex Mission Church.

Approximately 80 people attended the first Apex Mission Mass held in the basement of a restaurant. A small but determined cadre worked with the Diocese of Raleigh in hopes of establishing a permanent Catholic church in Apex to be known as St. Andrew the Apostle.

Jim Boyle, a member of that original group, recalls meeting with Bishop Joseph Gossman, who asked, "Can this be a viable parish on its own?" So Boyle collected the data and came up with a 10-step action plan. He told the Bishop that their group would do nine of the steps, if the Bishop would do the tenth – get priests. "That was in March 1983. By May 1983, he had priests for the parish," said Boyle.

One of the other nine steps was to find land. This was achieved by four parishioners who stepped forward to buy a 60-acre estate – selling 12 acres to the diocese at the original price and donating

all profits made on the sale of the remaining acres to the church.

Father William Schmidt (Father Bill) and Father Joseph Cavoto (Father Joe) from the Friars of the Atonement arrived in September 1983, marking the official beginning of the parish.

At first the local community, predominantly Protestant, was a bit unsure of this new Catholic presence. But Father Bill and Father Joe, as Franciscans, brought with them the special "charisms" or features of the Friars – outreach to the poor, hospitality and ecumenism.

They made outreach a priority from the onset. Other local churches responded graciously in a spirit of Christian unity, offering use of their facilities and joining efforts to serve the needy.

One of these first efforts, led by parishioner Antoinette Clark, was the Western Wake Crisis Ministry (WWCM), which continues to

serve the needy in Apex and the surrounding area. Clark solicited support at other local churches and created the WWCM as an ecumenical community effort to support those struggling financially.

More than 50 St. Andrew ministries now serve both the members of the parish and the local community. Father David

## Celebrating 25 Years

### St. Andrew the Apostle, Apex

the Diocese of  
**Raleigh**

Fitzgerald,  
S.A., Pastor  
of St.

Andrew, said  
that outreach is  
an important part  
of the parish culture.

"When someone wants to start a new ministry, we are open to it. Two recent examples are the Brown Bag Ministry which feeds the homeless every Saturday and the Special Needs Ministry, a support group for families with special needs children," said Father David.

Today St. Andrew has more than 3,100 families – more people than the entire town of Apex when the parish began. That growth, while a blessing, can also present challenges for the future.

"We've always been a welcoming parish. The majority of people have relocated here from somewhere else, so the parish has an extended family spirit. As we grow, we want to always maintain those bonds," said Father David.

**St. Andrew the  
Apostle, Apex**

3008 Old  
Raleigh Rd.  
Apex, NC  
27502-9254



## things to do:

### **Priesthood Discernment**

**Group** Sept. 20, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 219 Edenton Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27603. Adult Catholic men between the ages of 17-48 discerning a possible call to priesthood are invited to the Priesthood Discernment Group meetings held on the third Saturday of each month. If you are just beginning to contemplate a vocation or are more serious about a call to priesthood please consider attending this group. The Priesthood Discernment Group provides a fraternal environment in which to discuss your discernment of a possible call to priesthood with other men who are also examining the call. The group discusses issues central to the call and does so within the context of prayer, presentations and discussion. The morning begins with Mass. Coffee and

doughnuts will be available in the Office of Vocations (two doors down from the Cathedral) after Mass. Morning prayer, a discussion/presentation about discernment/priesthood, daytime prayer, and lunch follow. For more information contact the Vocations Office, 919.832.6279. Next group Oct. 18, same time and place.

### **Catechetical Sunday, Sept. 21,**

will focus on the theme, "The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church." Those who have been delegated by the community to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the role that each person plays, by virtue of baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel as well as to rededicating himself or herself to this mission as a community of faith.

### **Upcoming events at Avila Retreat Center**

711 Mason Road, Durham 27712. To register or for more information, call 919.477.1285.

### **►► Being Brothers and Sisters to All: Living the message of the Franciscan**

**Charism.** Franciscan Retreat, Oct. 3-5, Fri. 7 p.m. - Sun. 11 a.m. This retreat will focus on *Franciscan Prayer: Implications for 21st century Secular Franciscans* and all others interested in St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi. Description: Franciscan prayer? How does St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi's prayer life impact our prayer life today? Why St. Francis and St. Clare's spirituality take the now popular WWJD to a deeper level. Come and spend a weekend in prayer, dialogue and reflection in building a more fraternal world. Presenter: Dr. Patricia Pelletier, SFO, Ed.D. Padre Pio Fraternity, Raleigh, N.C. Donation: \$120

### **►► Spiritual Reflection on the Journey of Life**

Oct. 15, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Description: A look at the dynamics of the spiritual journey as it unfolds throughout our days. Presenter: Rev. John Durbin, pastor, St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Chapel Hill. Father John has taught theology at the graduate and undergraduate levels and has been a presenter for the North American Forum on the Catechumenate for over 20 years. He holds a Licentiate in Spirituality from the Gregorian University in Rome. Donation: \$30



**John 6:35 Retreat, Sept. 26-28,** St. Catherine of Siena - Wake Forest 520 West Holding Avenue, Wake Forest, N.C. 27587. Third Annual Eucharistic Youth Retreat for young adults 13-30.

### **Parish Social Ministry**

**Conference – Saturday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.** at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Newton Grove. Sponsored by Catholic Charities. The theme of the conference, "Who is My Neighbor?" (Luke 10:29) A Parish Response to Poverty" will address poverty from various perspectives. Allison Boisvert, keynote speaker, will present Understanding Poverty Closing the Gap. Breakout sessions will provide information and practical tools to better understand the scope of poverty in our neighborhoods, state, country and world, and to bring about change. A brochure can be downloaded from the diocesan Web site [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) by clicking on the office of Peace and Justice. To register by e-mail go to [register@raldioc.org](mailto:register@raldioc.org) or call 919.821.9751. Cost: \$20 includes lunch.

**Blessing of the Animals** by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Oct. 4, 1 p.m. in the courtyard of the Franciscan School, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Raleigh.

### **Celebrate Life Mass, Respect**

**Life Sunday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.** at St. Mary Church, 1000 North Jefferson Avenue, Goldsboro, N.C. 27530. Join with the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge in the Celebration of Life liturgy on Respect Life Sunday. All are welcome to celebrate the Eucharist and lift up the sacredness of all life.

### **Marriage Encounter**

**Weekend, Oct. 10, 6 p.m. – Oct. 12, 12 p.m.** at the Sheraton Raleigh Hotel. Arusi Marriage retreat is designed to address the needs of couples of African Ancestry and multicultural couples. Retreat cost is \$275

and covers your housing, meals and materials. Retreat leaders are Andrew and Terri Lyke from the Archdiocese of Chicago. For more information contact Martha Cartyer-Bailey at 919.821.9762 or Martha.Bailey@raldioc.org.

### **Bishop's Lecture Series,**

Sept. 19, 7p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes, 2718 Overbrook Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27608. Dr. John Haas, president, National Catholic Bioethics Center, will address The Catholic Conscience and Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship. (First of three lectures in the series.)

### **Hispanic Heritage Mass, Oct. 11,**

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at St. Ann Church, Clayton, N.C. The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge will preside at this Liturgy.

### **Emmaus Conference, Oct. 17**

– 18 at St. Paul Church, 3005 Country Club Road, New Bern, N.C. 28562. This annual adult conference sponsored by the Division of Evangelization and Catechesis is intended for parish catechetical leaders, catechists, youth ministers, priests, liturgical ministers, young adults, school teachers, anyone and everyone involved in passing on the faith, seeking spiritual renewal and companionship. This year's theme is: The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church/La palabra de Dios en la vida y mision de la iglesia. Contact Jan Vallero, 919.821.9710 or [vallero@raldioc.org](mailto:vallero@raldioc.org).

### **Hermanidad del Señor de los Milagros de Raleigh**

Brotherhood of Our Lord of the Miracles

Mass & Procession  
Misa y Procesión

4 p.m. Sun. Oct. 26  
Domingo 26 de Octubre  
St. Thomas More Catholic Church

►► Para más información llame a:  
Sra. Sara Vidal 919.923.5000  
[www.senordelosmilagrosnc.org](http://www.senordelosmilagrosnc.org)





## First Friday Prayer for Vocations Resumes in a New Way

►► As the summer ends, First Friday prayer for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life will be resuming throughout the Diocese, in a way the Office of Vocations hopes will increase participation and raise awareness in every Catholic parish and school. In a letter addressed to all Pastors, Pastoral Administrators and Catholic School principals, the Reverend Ned Shlesinger, Director of Vocations, has invited them to create opportunities in their parishes and schools for adoration and prayer for vocations on the First Friday of each month.

In a letter addressed to all Pastors, Pastoral Administrators and Catholic School principals, the Reverend Ned Shlesinger, Director of Vocations, has invited them to create opportunities in their parishes and schools for adoration and prayer for vocations on the First Friday of each month.

Last year, the Vocations Holy Hours were monthly events scheduled by the Office of Vocations that rotated through each of the eight deaneries of the Diocese. This year, according to Brad Watkins, Assistant to the Director of Vocations, Bishop Burbidge hopes to move the emphasis from that of a singular monthly event, organized by the Office of Vocations, to adoration and prayer for vocations organized by the parishes and schools. Each month Bishop Burbidge will attend one of these local events as his schedule permits.

"The parishes might offer a Mass for Vocations," Watkins said, "or a Mass in which vocations are included prominently in the Prayers of the Faithful. It might be groups of the faithful gathering to pray the

Rosary for the intention of vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Ideally, we would like for parishes and schools to offer adoration and prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, which already occurs in many parishes on First Fridays, with the specific intention of praying for an increase in vocations."

Watkins says that the overall purpose of this new initiative is to build a culture of discernment, and to "remind everyone, regardless of their age or their situation, to prayerfully and frequently ask the question, 'What

Watkins says that the overall purpose of this new initiative is to build a culture of discernment, and to "remind everyone, regardless of their age or their situation, to prayerfully and frequently ask the question, 'What is God asking me to do with my life?' Of course the Office of Vocations also hopes that everyone in the Diocese will begin to pray specifically for the "Master of the Harvest to send out laborers" (Mt 9:38).

is God asking me to do with my life?' Of course the Office of Vocations also hopes that everyone in the Diocese will begin to pray specifically for the "Master of the Harvest to send out laborers" (Mt 9:38).

"Pope Benedict has said that if we invite people to an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, and if we teach them to pray, especially our young people, we can trust that they will know what to do with God's call. So we're hoping to promote a culture of always being in a

prayerful dialogue with the Lord about the decisions we make."

Towards this end the Office of Vocations is also asking pastors to submit the names of individuals who are personally interested in helping to promote and encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life in their parishes and missions. The goal is to have a "Vocations Liaison" in each church, to serve as a contact with the Office of Vocations, who can assist with planning for Adoration and Prayer for Vocations, and to help distribute materials from the Office such as its new posters and prayer cards.

More information about both of these programs will be available in late September on the new Office of Vocations website which will be accessible from the main site of the Diocese of Raleigh.

The goal is to have a "Vocations Liaison" in each church, to serve as a contact with the Office of Vocations, who can assist with planning.



**Extend your hand to others through  
the Catholic Church . . .**

**You can help feed the hungry,  
shelter the needy and care for  
the neglected, while securing  
income for your needs with a  
Charitable Gift Annuity  
through the Catholic Church.**

**Receive these and other benefits:**

- Fixed Income for Life
- Attractive Relief from Taxes

**Let our charitable gift planner show  
you and your advisors the many  
tax-wise giving option available  
through the Catholic Church**

**SAMPLE  
ONE-LIFE RATE**

AGE	RATE %
55 . . . . .	5.3
60 . . . . .	5.5
65 . . . . .	5.7
70 . . . . .	6.1
75 . . . . .	6.7
80 . . . . .	7.6
85 . . . . .	8.9
90+ . . . . .	10.5
Two-Life Rates Available	

**. . . . and receive a lifetime income.**

Let our charitable gift planner show you and your advisors the many tax-wise giving options available through the Catholic Church. For more information call (919) 821-9721 or return this completed coupon.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date(s) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Office of Stewardship and Development • Catholic Diocese of Raleigh  
715 Nazareth Street • Raleigh, NC 27606-2187 • E-mail: [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org)

**Visit our Estate Planning Web Site: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.**

# Retirement is not what it used to be!

At Pennybyrn at Maryfield, you are free to do what you choose, at a speed that's comfortable for you. Try something new. Travel more. Stretch your mind. Forget yard work and housekeeping. Gear up for a life of leisure that can take you anywhere you want to go!

**Visit us today, or call (336) 821-4050 or  
toll-free (866) 627-9343.**



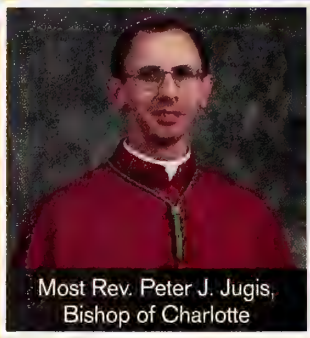
Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God  
[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)  
109 Penny Road, High Point, NC 27260





# CATHOLIC VOICE NC

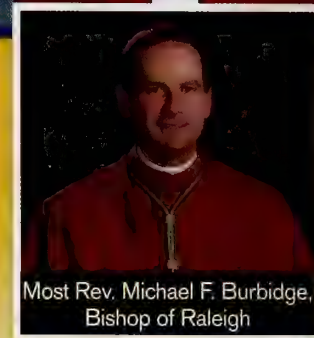
*The nonpartisan voice of North Carolina's Bishops*



Most Rev. Peter J. Jugis,  
Bishop of Charlotte

**Are you interested in shaping the  
laws that affect your family and you?**

## CATHOLIC VOICE NC



Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge,  
Bishop of Raleigh

**Catholic Voice NC** is a non-partisan public policy project established by the two Catholic Bishops of North Carolina to enable Catholic citizens to participate more effectively in political and public life.

If you would like your voice to be heard by legislators who are considering bills that would affect respect life issues, end of life issues, marriage and family life, stem cell research, and immigration, please consider registering at

**[www.CatholicVoiceNC.org](http://www.CatholicVoiceNC.org)**

September 2008



**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



please recycle



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514  
95219 P 12 1209  
UNC CHAPEL HILL SERIALS DEPARTMENT 34  
CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY  
CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

October 2008

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

LEGISLATIVE  
BUILDING

As elections  
near, Catholics  
across North  
Carolina are  
making

# Faithful DECISIONS



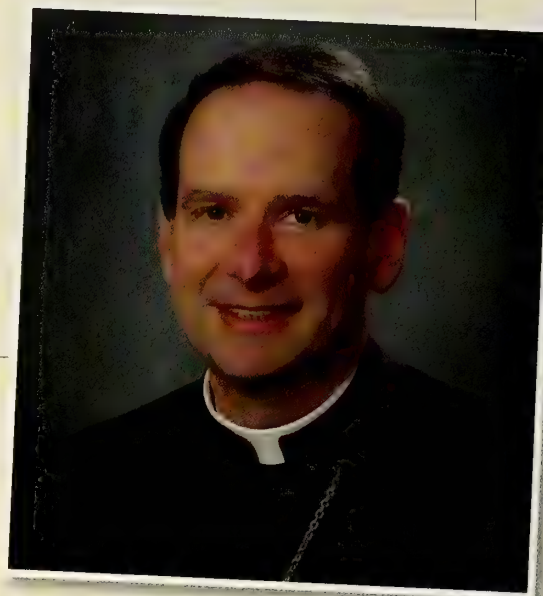
**T**hroughout the political process, we have been hearing a great deal from the candidates and their campaigns. During this extended period, it is obvious that a great deal of zeal and perseverance are required of the candidates in order for them to meet the demands and rigors of the campaign.

In this Respect Life Month, the Church reminds us of another type of campaign, the one highlighted by Pope John Paul II in his encyclical *Evangelium Vitae: A great campaign in support of life*. It is an ongoing campaign that also requires zeal, perseverance, generosity and sacrifice. In the words we speak, the deeds we perform and the witness we offer, we must work tirelessly in eradicating all that destroys human life, especially abortion and the use of embryonic stem cells for scientific research. We must never cease our efforts in defending the dignity of every human person, in particular the terminally ill, the disabled and the immigrant.

At this critical time in the life of our country, we have an extraordinary opportunity to campaign for life in the public arena as we participate as faithful citizens in the electoral process. We pause to thank God for those who have sacrificed their lives to give us our right to vote. We remember that the exercise of our vote demands a clear understanding of the issues and the positions of the candidates along with a commitment to prayer and discernment so that our vote is always cast in light of the Gospel of Life. To assist you in this process, I refer you to our Diocesan Web site and some rich resources including the document produced by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *The Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*. I also renew my invitation for you to gain access to a wealth of information available from the new initiative of the Dioceses of Raleigh and Charlotte, *Catholic Voice North Carolina*.

Soon political campaigns will cease, at least for some period of time. However, the great campaign in support of life can never end. We must pray daily for an end to abortion in the U.S. and throughout the world. We must constantly seek ways to alleviate the suffering of others and those who lack the essential resources of food and clothing. We must visit those in prison and those who are alone. We must reach out to those in our communities who are considered outside the boundaries of legal protection. We must make clear our refusal to tolerate any form of racism and prejudice in our communities and workplaces. We must take public stands in support of life.

This is the ongoing great campaign in support of life which demands much of us. At times, we may have a sense that our efforts are failing to make a difference. We may tire and grow weary. We will certainly encounter forms of rejection and face the choice to cease our witness of faith rather than embrace any suffering that may accompany it. In this Year of Saint Paul, we turn to this great Apostle for inspiration, especially during this Respect Life Month as we rededicate ourselves to the essential work of protecting and defending the sacredness of all human life from the moment of conception to natural death. He tells us "to rejoice in hope, be patient under trial and persevere in prayer" (Romans 12:12). If we heed Saint Paul's words, we can be assured that, with God's grace, our great campaign in support of life will end in victory because of the power at work within us, who is Christ Jesus Our Lord.



## The great campaign for life

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh



# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

## cover story

### As elections near, Catholics across North Carolina are making Faithful Decisions

►► This November, faithful Catholics in the Diocese of Raleigh will be voting their consciences. But they won't, whether on a national, state or local level, all be voting for the same candidates. And that, according to *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States*, is as it should be.

# 14

## el hispano Católico

### 18 Inmigración ►► Reporte especial de inmigración

– Douglas Culp

### 20 Querido lector de NCC

►► Querido lector:  
¿Mitad Humano, Mitad  
Animal? – El Padre Tadeusz

Pacholczyk

### 21 Obispo Burbidge

►► La gran campaña  
por la vida

– Obispo Mi

## from the Bishop

2 The great campaign for life

– Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

## since you asked ...

8 I read that some scientists have created embryos that are half human, half animal! What's the story?

– Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk

## from the editor

9 The Knights and the story behind the Tootsie Rolls

– Rich Reece

## theology 101

10 The Legacy of Popes John and Paul  
part one of a nine-part series on the  
Second Vatican Council

– Sr. Maria Faustina Showalter, O.P., Sr. John Mary Corbett, O.P., Sr. Maria Gemma Martek, O.P., and Sr. Elizabeth Ann O'Reilly, O.P.

## saint of the month

12 St. Alexander Sauli

## voices in our church

13 AAME Thanks Mrs. Martha Bailey

– Msgr. Thomas Hadden

13 Celebración de la Hispanidad

– Padre Fernando Torres

## cover story

16 As elections near, Catholics across North Carolina are making Faithful Decisions – Rich Reece

## your marriage matters

22 He says: I just got a bonus – let's buy a boat!. She says: Is he kidding? We can't afford it. – Tom and JoAnne Fogle

## parish profile

28 A Little Parish With a Big Heart  
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Farmville

– Rich Reece



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

October 2008 • Vol. 4 : Issue 8

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Father Tad Pacholczyk  
Father Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

Denmark Photo and Video (cover)  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vicki Bedard  
DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING

Jillane Job  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR

Lynne Ridenour  
GRAPHIC DESIGNER/WEB MASTER

Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Betsy Miner  
PROOFREADING

Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Tim Ryan  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT



NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and June. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™ Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730

## Red Mass, White Mass Celebrated

►► A Red Mass was celebrated by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge at Sacred Heart Cathedral on Oct. 17. The Red Mass dates to the 13th century and refers to the color of robes worn then by judicial officials who attended in order to seek divine guidance through the Holy Spirit for their work. Today, the Red Mass is celebrated with the very same intention for all legal professionals at the opening of the judicial term each October. Bishop Burbidge invited attorneys, judges, and all those working in the legal system or who are involved in the legal processes of government to attend.

A White Mass was celebrated by Bishop Burbidge at St. Peter Catholic Church in Greenville, N.C., on Oct. 22. Originally named for the garments worn by some healthcare professionals, the White Mass now serves as a source of grace for all who serve in the professional and compassionate care of the sick. For this Mass, Bishop Burbidge invited all physicians, nurses, those who give psychiatric care, pharmacists, therapists, social workers, laboratory technicians, dieticians, those serving in an administrative capacity within healthcare, and all who minister to the sick as priests, deacons, consecrated religious and laity.



## New Director of Stewardship and Institutional Development Hired



Mr. Michael G. Pedley

►► Bishop Michael F. Burbidge has appointed Mr. Michael G. Pedley as Director of Stewardship and Institutional Advancement for the Diocese of Raleigh. Mr. Pedley comes from Purdue University, where he has served as Director of Corporate Relations at the College of Agriculture and also as Staff Counsel and Associate Director for Planned Giving. Mr. Pedley has an undergraduate degree from the University of Cincinnati and a law degree from the University of Dayton. He is relocating with his wife Storie and their three children to Raleigh and will officially begin on Oct. 20.

In announcing the appointment, Bishop Burbidge expressed gratitude to Ms. Cathy Rusin and Mrs. Joan Price for all of their work in the Stewardship and Development office, especially in the time of transition over the past several months. He also praised the dedicated work and wisdom of the search committee for this position: Mrs. Brug Jung who serves on the BAA Steering Committee; Mr. Tim Mann, Chair of the Diocesan Finance Council; Ms. Kathleen Walsh, Director of Catholic Charities; and Father Justin Kerber, Dean of the Tar River Deanery and Pastor of St. Peter Parish in Greenville.

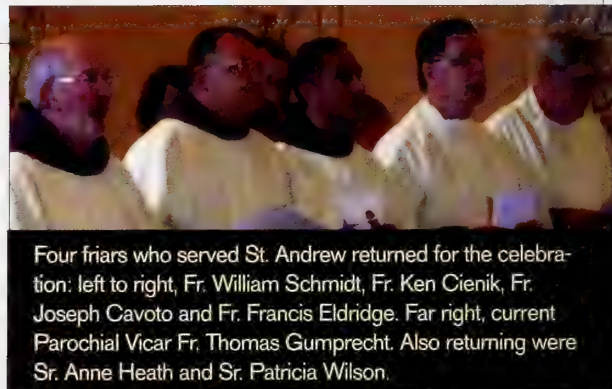
## 25th Anniversary Mass for St. Andrew Church

►► St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church celebrated its 25th anniversary Sept. 13-14, culminating with the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge presiding at the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday.

The parish was established in 1983 as the result of the increased Catholic population in the Cary-Apex area. It was assigned to the care of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement with Father William Schmidt its first pastor. Today, the parish community numbers 3,200 families. Father David E. Fitzgerald is pastor.

Bishop Burbidge acknowledged parishioners who were instrumental in building the faith community and those who continue to strengthen and sustain it.

In his homily, the Bishop noted the parish anniversary occurred on the same day as the universal Church was celebrating the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. "As we walk through this life, there are times our patience can be worn out by the journey," the Bishop said. "However, the truth of today's Gospel alleviates any sense of defeat, as we are powerfully reminded that all who turn to Jesus lifted up in crucifixion



Four friars who served St. Andrew returned for the celebration: left to right, Fr. William Schmidt, Fr. Ken Cienik, Fr. Joseph Cavoto and Fr. Francis Eldridge. Far right, current Parochial Vicar Fr. Thomas Gumprecht. Also returning were Sr. Anne Heath and Sr. Patricia Wilson.



and resurrection are healed and given the promise of new life both now and forever."

For more about St. Andrew Church, read *NC Catholics*, September 2008, p. 28.

## Sixteen Permanent Diaconate Candidates Receive Ministry of Lector

►► Sixteen candidates for the Diaconate in the Diocese of Raleigh received the ministry of lector at a special Mass, Sun., Sept. 7, presided over by Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge. The Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Newton Grove.

The men are in the process of a five year formation and discernment process that will lead them to ordination as permanent deacons. The lector is a person who proclaims the Word of God. The second step in formation is the ministry of acolyte, followed by the Order of Deacon. An interval of time is established between the three ministries.

Bishop Burbidge instructed the candidates that in order "to proclaim Christ to the world and convince others that Jesus is God with us, then you must first be people who listen to His voice, for it is His Word you proclaim, not your own." The Bishop told the candidates they must lead by example and be known "as people who love one another" and be willing to forgive.

"You must challenge and instruct so that others are led to avoid evil and to embrace all that is good, holy and pleasing in the sight of God," Bishop Burbidge added.

The 16 candidates are:

- Michael Boyd Alig
- Vincent Joseph Mescall
- Walter Calabrese
- Patrick Daniel Pelkey
- Michel du Sablon
- Robert Hinsdale Snyder, Jr.
- Frederick Melvin Fisher, Jr.
- Ronald Soriano
- Joseph Pius Piyasiri Gabriel
- Gary Cole Stemple
- Frank Taft Jones, III
- Juan Alexander Vincent-Martinez
- Patrick Gerald McIlmoyle
- Bradley Evans Watkins
- Emilio Mejia
- Mark Alan Westrick

Information on the Diaconate program is available at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/vocations/diaconate.aspx](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/vocations/diaconate.aspx).

## New Ecumenical Officer Appointed for the Diocese

►► Brother William Martyn, S.A., has been appointed Ecumenical Officer for the Diocese of Raleigh. The Ecumenical Officer serves as the liaison between the ecumenical community and the Catholic Church. While Brother Martyn is currently Director of Faith Formation at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Cary, he has served in a wide variety of ministries in almost

50 years as a Franciscan Friar of the Atonement, including health care, campus ministry, web design, adult religious education and a host of Ecumenical positions, among them Director of the Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute; Consultant to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations; Director of the Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs for the Archdiocese of New York; and Consultant to the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations to the Jews. He holds a M.A. in Theological Studies from the University of Dayton, Dayton, OH.



Ecumenism is at the heart of the mission of Brother Martyn's Order. Over a century ago, Fr. Paul Watson, the founder of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, was searching for a name for a new religious society. Opening the Scriptures at random, his eyes fell upon the eleventh verse of the fifth chapter of St. Paul's epistle to the Romans: "... we also joy in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement." The last word of the verse stood out with a vividness that was to him overwhelming: *at-one-ment*. And so, the Society had found its name.

Headquartered at Graymoor in Garrison, NY, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement are a Roman Catholic religious community with social, ecumenical and pastoral ministries in the United States, Canada, England, Italy, and Japan. Since its inception in 1898, reconciliation and healing through *atone-ment* — the unity of men and women with God and one another — has been the mission of these ministries.

In his letter announcing Brother Martyn's appointment, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge wrote, "As a member of the Friars of the Atonement, Brother Martyn has served as a great witness to what is at the heart of the apostolate of the Friars: Christian Unity. I am confident that he will continue that witness as he assumes his responsibilities in our Diocese." The Bishop also expressed his gratitude to Fr. David McBriar, O.F.M., for his service as Ecumenical Officer. "I deeply appreciate," the Bishop wrote, "the tremendous dedication that he has brought to this great endeavor of our Church."

## Bishop Appoints Director for Office of Worship

►► Mr. Gerald Hall has been appointed Director for the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Raleigh. In his letter announcing the appointment, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge wrote: "Mr. Hall comes to Raleigh with over twenty years of experience in leadership at the Diocesan level, most recently serving as the Director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Norwich. A native of New Mexico, Mr. Hall was raised in a bilingual home and began his ministry in the Church as the local parish organist."

One of Mr. Hall's responsibilities as Director of Worship, in addition to overseeing liturgical catechesis in the Diocese will be to coordinate all liturgies for the Office of the Bishop. He will join the Diocesan staff officially on Oct. 27.





2008 YEAR OF ST. PAUL

## Celebrate St. Paul

**E**ach month, *NC Catholics* will report on various initiatives and activities throughout the Diocese to incorporate the Jubilee Year of St. Paul into the spiritual formation of the faithful. Watch this space! If you know of Pauline events occurring, send information and or pictures to *NC Catholics* by emailing [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).

*iPaul: Lessons From the Apostle*, a series of podcast reflections on the life and works of St. Paul, has begun on the Diocesan Web site. The first reflection, *An Introduction to St. Paul*, features Father Jonathan A. Woodhall, Ph.D., whose columns have appeared frequently in *NC Catholics*. New reflections will be added throughout the Jubilee Year of St. Paul, including some reflections in Spanish. Following Father Woodhall, look for reflections from Sister Joan Jurski, OSF, director of the Diocesan Office of Peace and Justice, and Sister Mary Agnes Ryan, IHM, pastoral associate at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Raleigh.

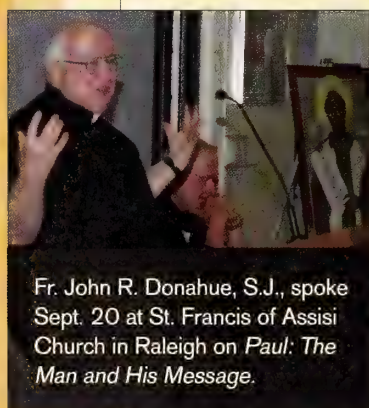
At the Emmaus Conference, Oct. 17-18 at St. Paul Catholic Church in New Bern, N.C., Paul Griffiths, Warren Chair of Catholic Theology at Duke Divinity School, spoke on Paul the Evangelist. Griffiths will also be part of an ecumenical event celebrating St. Paul at the Divinity School in January 2009.

Students in Kathleen Kozak's Ministry for Leadership class at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh have produced a 20-minute video about St. Paul. Aimed at a peer audience, the video includes a rap song.

St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill is presenting an adult faith formation series: *Eclipsing Empire: Paul, Rome and the Kingdom of God*. The 12-session DVD and Web-based program explores St. Paul's message of the Kingdom of God, its challenge to Roman imperial theology, and St. Paul's relevance for today. Each 20-minute video segment features a brief travelogue on a location significant for the study of Paul. The first session, *Empire*, was held Sept. 30. To learn about the series themes and dates and for more information see [www.church.st-thomasmore.org/ysp](http://www.church.st-thomasmore.org/ysp) or contact Jim Hynes at 942-6237.

Also on Sept. 30, Father Ernest Ruede, pastor of St. Paul Parish in

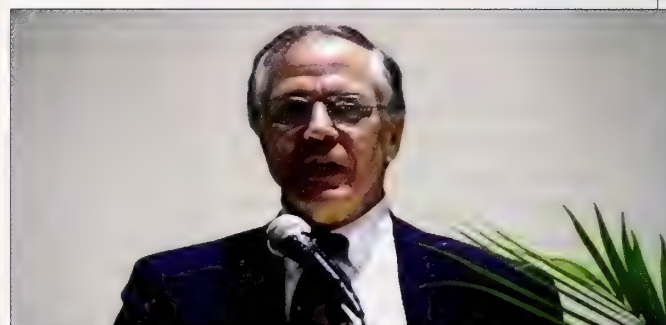
New Bern, N.C., began a six-week Scripture Study on the Pastoral Letters of St. Paul. The study began with a discussion of Colossians.



Fr. John R. Donahue, S.J., spoke Sept. 20 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Raleigh on *Paul: The Man and His Message*.



On Oct. 7, people of various faiths assembled as Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge joined other North Carolina faith leaders to present the North Carolina Religious Coalition for Justice for Immigrants. The Coalition is a grassroots initiative that has received sign-ons from almost 300 clergy and religious leaders and more than 650 laypeople from over 20 denominations and faith traditions across North Carolina.



John Haas, President of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, inaugurated the 2008-2009 Bishop's Lecture Series Sept. 19. In the series' next lecture, on Jan. 9, 2009, Dr. Robert Hambourger will discuss Abortion and the Devaluation of Human Life at St. Peter Church, Greenville, NC. Information: 252-757-3259.



Knights of Columbus present \$8,500 to the Durham Child Development and Behavioral Health Clinic. (See "From the Editor" on p. 9.) Left to right: Knights Bill Scott and State Deputy John Gouldie; genetic counselor Allyn McConkie-Rosell, Ph.D.; Dr. Ave Lachiewicz; child psychologist Gail Spiridigliozzi, Ph.D., and Deby Burgess. Deby, whose son has Frigid X syndrome, runs a parent support group.



## "Different Where It Counts" Is Theme of Catholic Educators Conference

►► More than 800 Catholic educators gathered September 19th for the annual Diocesan Education Conference.

The one-day event was held at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Raleigh. The day began with the celebration of Mass, with Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge presiding.

Bishop Burbidge joined Catholic School Superintendent Dr. Michael J. Fedewa in the presentation of service awards to teachers who marked milestone anniversaries in Catholic education this year. The longest serving milestone anniversary belongs to Ms. Annette Jay, a staff member at Cardinal Gibbons High School, who has worked in Catholic education for 30 years.

The theme of this year's conference was "Different Where It Counts." The objective was to introduce the basic concepts of differentiated instruction, an educational approach that takes into account various learning styles and tendencies.

In his homily, Bishop Burbidge thanked the educators for their commitment to their students and families. "Your vocation is a blessing to them and the entire Church," Bishop Burbidge said.

"If we are going to help our students to utilize and to maximize their gifts for the building and the strengthening of the Body of Christ, we must reach out to them as Jesus did; not as a crowd, not as a number, but as unique persons, precious in the sight of God."

## CGHS Chapel Designated "Queen of All Saints"

►► At a Mass celebrated at Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh, Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge designated the school chapel as "Queen of All Saints Chapel." The Bishop also blessed the new chapel doors, which were installed during the summer as part of an ongoing upgrade of the chapel and narthex (entrance) area.

Fr. Scott McCue, Assistant Principal for Spiritual Life at Cardinal Gibbons, explained that the title of "Queen of All Saints" places the chapel under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as was the school building during its construction in the 1990's. This title also honors the patron saints of the three religious communities that have served at the high school: the Dominican Sisters of Newburgh, New York (St. Dominic) who, along with Msgr. Thomas Griffin, founded the school as Sacred Heart Academy in 1909; the Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio (St. Julie Billiart); and the Franciscan Brothers of Brooklyn, New York (St. Francis).



## Diocese Takes Part in 40 Days for Life Campaign

►► Forty Days for Life, a national pro-life campaign, began September 24 with more than 170 cities in 45 states taking part in what is the "largest and longest coordinated pro-life mobilization in history."

In Raleigh, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge along with 30 men and women gathered at 7 am to pray the Rosary in front of "A Woman's Choice" in Raleigh. In a September 18th letter to the people of the Diocese, Bishop Burbidge extended hope that Catholics in every parish "will participate in this activity of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach providing a positive pro-life message."



## Bishop Celebrates Annual Mass for Home-School Families

►► The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Mass for home-school parents, Saturday, Sept. 13 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Raleigh. The Mass was hosted by The Association of Roman Catholic Homeschoolers (ARCH) of Raleigh and Cary and the Raleigh parish.

In his homily, Bishop Burbidge noted the day marked the Memorial of St. John Chrysostom, a man who spoke of life's difficulties, while maintaining a great faith. He commended the parents for assuming their role "as the first teachers of your children in the ways of faith."

"In a world that often misleads and misguides our young people with conflicting messages," the Bishop said, "you lead your children to truth as found in Sacred Scripture and the sound teachings of the Church."

Bishop Burbidge encouraged the children to thank their parents and to work with them, adding, "Your parents love you very much and will do anything to protect you." He cautioned, "Yet, they cannot spare you from all the temptations and sufferings of the world." He said the formation they are providing "will always lead you on the right path and provide the strength that you need."



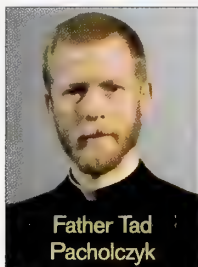
## Ministries Thank Diocesan Faithful for Support

►► Several contributions by the faithful of the Diocese of Raleigh to special collections were gratefully acknowledged recently: Catholic Relief Services, \$26,824.28 for Natural Disaster Relief to Southeast Asia; the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, \$73,702.63 for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe; Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States, \$96,763 for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and \$334 for the Society of St. Peter the Apostle; the Franciscan Monastery in Washington, DC, \$81,369.58 for the 2008 Holy Land Collection.



**Dear NCC: I read that some scientists have created embryos that are half human, half animal! What's the story?**

**B**ritish scientists have recently received a green light from their regulatory agency to create hybrid embryos. Using cloning technology, these embryos are made out of human and animal parts. By injecting a human nucleus (the human genetic package) into a cow egg that has had its own genetic package taken out, a defective human embryo can be created.



— Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)

People sometimes imagine this would make a half-human, half-animal creature and, hence, the name hybrid embryo. However, because the nuclear genetic package is entirely human, the new embryo would actually be human with various cow molecules present as contaminants within the embryo's biochemical machinery. The reason for trying to produce these maimed human embryos is to be able to destroy them before they grow too large, prior to reaching two weeks of age, in order to obtain their stem cells.

This bizarre project of creating partially damaged human embryos using cow eggs is being promoted largely because of the difficulty of getting women to agree to donate their eggs. Most women balk at the idea of handing over their own eggs voluntarily so that scientists can use them for cloning experiments. Not only is the procedure for obtaining eggs invasive, painful and dangerous for women, but they often feel a natural protectiveness towards their own eggs, their fertility, and any children they might engender.

This instinct to protect our own is deeply rooted not only in human beings, but throughout the animal kingdom, and only the most cursory ethical reflection is needed to grasp the moral problem with creating human offspring in laboratories, using an admixture of cow components in order to scientifically cannibalize them.

We see this natural instinct to protect one's embryonic offspring very powerfully illustrated in the case of the Emperor Penguin. It is the only mammal bold enough to remain in Antarctica throughout the entire winter, while others migrate to warmer climates. The story of the breeding

## Dear NCC

This month with  
Father Tad Pacholczyk

habits of Emperor Penguins has fascinated millions in the recent big-screen movie, *March of the Penguins*. These animals find one mate, to whom they are singularly faithful, and each female lays one softball-sized egg, which she hands over to her mate. She then strikes out on a two-month feeding frenzy in the waters of the ocean, leaving her partner to incubate the egg through the worst of the polar winter, having only his body fat to sustain him.

Through shrieking windstorms and weeks of winter darkness, the male carefully balances the egg containing the growing embryonic penguin on the tops of his feet, where there is an apron of densely-feathered flesh which seals out the deadly cold. That egg remains on his feet for more than 60 days, and during that period, the male eats nothing and loses up to half of his own body weight. If the egg should happen to fall out of its protective hutch, it can freeze solid on the polar ice in a matter of a few short minutes. The mother normally returns around the time the child hatches. After hatching, an emperor chick spends its first two months nestled within its mother's or father's belly pouch, where the temperature hovers at a protective 96.8 degrees. Parents take turns caring for the young chick, feeding it regurgitated food until it eventually becomes ready to exit from its secret hutch and face the brutal elements of Antarctica.

The incredible solicitude of the Emperor Penguin for its own pre-born offspring, scrupulously protecting them even in their most vulnerable embryonic stages, is a powerful testament to the proper order of creation, where older members of the species naturally go to great lengths to assure the safety and well-being of younger members.

Part of the progress of human civilization over the centuries has been in a similar protection for the young, where children have come to be seen as a sacred trust, an end in themselves, and not merely a means for the satisfaction of parental (or scientific) desires. Father Raymond de Souza has summarized the matter well:

"It is a hallmark of Western civilization that children are to be seen as good in their own right, persons with rights and dignity entrusted



to the care of their parents. This is such a commonplace idea that we do not stop to consider it a great civilizational achievement, but it is. In the ancient world both infanticide and child sacrifice were not rare, and in general the legal status of the child was akin to other property in the household. It was the long painstaking work of centuries - drawing upon both religious and civil resources - to arrive at the cultural and legal consensus that the child does not exist as an object for the benefit of others, but that the child must be treated as a subject for his own sake."

Today, however, we are being powerfully tempted to subvert these primary intuitions and instincts by forcefully removing our young from the protective harbor of the womb via abortion, and by going even further and desecrating our own embryonic children as mere objects for scientific aggrandizement, treating them as repositories for deriving spare parts or stem cells.

Some in our society pretend that this type of scientific research represents progress, but it actually represents a regress to a time when children were considered objects to be disposed of by others. One reason that *The March of the Penguins* was such a hit was because of the way it highlighted the kind of parental love, protection, and sacrifice to which each of us naturally is drawn. The destruction of our own through embryonic stem cell research — as much as some might wish to cloak it in terms of techniques such as hybrids — is a reversion to the barbarism of former ages.

The remarkable extent to which many members of the animal kingdom seek to protect their own embryonic offspring should give us pause as a society to reflect on basic questions, and help us regain our moral equilibrium, lest we continue to rush headlong into transgressing our own nature and our most sacred obligations towards our young.

**Send your questions to:**  
**"Since you asked ..."**

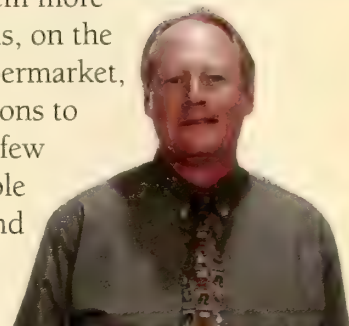
715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

**Or:**

reece@raldioc.org

## The Knights and the story behind the Tootsie Rolls

**Y**ou've probably encountered them more than once: Knights of Columbus, on the sidewalk outside your local supermarket, offering Tootsie Rolls and asking for donations to help developmentally disabled children. A few weeks ago I had a chance to see one example of the good those donations accomplish, and to meet the man who started this program in North Carolina.



I visited the Durham Child Development & Behavioral Health Clinic, a division of Duke Children's Hospital, at the invitation of Dr. Ave Lachiewicz, who works with children affected by Fragile X Syndrome, a genetic disorder which results in mild to severe physical, intellectual, emotional and behavioral symptoms. On the day I visited, the Knights of Columbus were presenting \$8,500 to the clinic for the treatment of these children, several of whom were there with their families. The Knights are one of the major charitable supports for the clinic, thanks to former State Deputy Bill Scott, who learned about Fragile X decades ago when he realized his two sons were both affected by the syndrome.

Today Bill is in his 80s, but his enthusiasm for helping these children is undimmed. It was 1969 when he started a program with the Knights which he christened LAMB, an acronym for Least Among My Brothers, to raise funds for, in the parlance of the time, "mentally retarded children." The LAMB Foundation's first Tootsie Roll drive was in 1974. "We raised \$31,000," Bill recalls. Today, according to K of C State Deputy John Gouldie, the program raises almost a million dollars a year to assist developmentally disabled children throughout the state. Since the program started, the Knights have distributed over \$17.4 million to hundreds of North Carolina agencies.

At the Durham Clinic, now nationally renowned for its work with Fragile X patients, donations from the Knights fund a variety of needs. "A blood test to diagnose Fragile X was available in the early '90s," Dr. Lachiewicz says, "but insurance companies have been slow to allow coverage. Donations like this make it possible to offer the test to families whose insurance won't cover it." Fragile X is not curable. Treatment involves long term speech and physical therapy, and funding helps provide tools such as weighted pens and flash cards, stencils for forming letters and talking puzzles.

The next time I see the Knights with their Tootsie Rolls, I'm going to recall my visit to the clinic, and think about compassion. The compassion of the professionals who work with these children and their courageous parents, and especially the compassion of a man who saw in his own family's misfortune a mandate to help others.

— Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.

►► Thank you for your letters and emails! You can write me at 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.



# The Legacy of Popes John and Paul

part one of a nine-part series on the Second Vatican Council



— Sr. Maria Faustina Showalter, O.P., Sr. John Mary Corbett, O.P., Sr. Maria Gemma Martek, O.P., and Sr. Elizabeth Ann O'Reilly, O.P.

When Karol Wojtyla stepped out onto the balcony overlooking St. Peter's square after his election on Oct. 16, 1978, he was introduced to the world as Pope John Paul II. The selection of his name was partly to honor his immediate predecessor, John Paul I, who died after a brief 33-day reign, but, more significantly, to represent the new pontiff's mission: to explain, defend and fulfill the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, which was convened under Pope John XXIII and Pope Paul VI.

A rare and important event: The Second Vatican Council was only the 21st ecumenical council in the 2,000-year history of the Catholic Church. An ecumenical council is a gathering of all the Bishops of the world – “ecumenical,” meaning universal – which, when summoned by the Bishop of Rome, constitutes the highest teaching authority in the Church. Councils have been convened throughout the ages at crucial moments in Church history: to refute heresy, resolve crises, discuss matters of doctrine and issue formal pronouncements about matters of faith and morals. Most of the councils were called in response to some error or false teaching, and resulted in the definition of doctrine, such as the Trinity, the Incarnation, Mary as the Mother of God, etc. Vatican II is unique in that it was called primarily to be a pastoral council, rather than a response to a crisis.

Jesus endowed His Church with the Holy Spirit: He wanted to ensure the handing on of the faith. This is done through the teaching authority of the Church called the Magisterium. When the Bishops are united in communion with the Bishop of

## Timeline: history of the 21 councils

### 1 Nicaea I, 325

- Nicene Creed formulated.
- Affirmed the divinity of Christ.
- Fixed the date of Easter.

### 2 Constantinople I, 381

- Dogma of the Most Holy Trinity defined.
- Declared the Holy Spirit to be consubstantial (of the same substance, therefore divine) with the Father and the Son.
- Nicene Creed promulgated (“I believe in the Holy Spirit ... life everlasting” added to the end).

### 3 Ephesus 431

- Dogma of the Incarnation – God truly became man.
- Declared Mary the Mother of God (Theotokos).

### 4 Chalcedon 451

- Affirmed that Jesus is one person with two natures: human and Divine.

### 5 Constantinople II, 553

- Hypostatic union: Jesus was inseparably true God and true man.

### 6 Constantinople III, 680

- Defined that Christ had two wills, human and Divine.

### 7 Nicaea II, 787

- Affirmed that because the Word became flesh, holy images and statues are legitimate and worthy of veneration.

### 8 Constantinople IV, 869

- Deposed Photius, the unlawful Patriarch of Constantinople and restored the patriarchy to Ignatius, beginning the schism between the Eastern and Western Churches.

### 9 Lateran I, 1123

- Issued decrees on simony (buying/selling of Church offices), investiture and clerical celibacy.

### 10 Lateran II, 1139

- Ended the Papal schism.
- Reforms on Holy Orders.

### 11 Lateran III, 1179

- Reaffirmed the seven Sacraments.
- Declared that a priest's sinfulness does not invalidate sacraments.
- Regulated Papal Elections: To elect a pope, the college of cardinals must vote with a two-thirds majority.

### 12 Lateran IV, 1215

- Defined transubstantiation: Holy Eucharist is the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ under the accidents



Rome in an ecumenical council, they enjoy infallibility in their pronouncements on faith and morals. A council does not produce innovations in doctrine or the faith. Rather, it makes more explicit those existing matters of the deposit of faith in continuity with the tradition of the Church.

Why was the council held? The Second Vatican Council was of a pastoral nature, rather than one called to condemn errors. Pope John XXIII, who convened the council, desired it to increase the "fervor and energy of Catholics and serve the needs of Christian people." He hoped the council would communicate and promote the universal call to holiness attainable by every person, and instill a missionary spirit in the hearts of all Christians. To do this, the Church needed to better instruct the faithful of all ages in faith and morals, to proclaim the boundless depths of God's mercy,

and to engage Christians in the modern world. Pope John expressed his desires for up-to-date renewal of the Church in one word – *aggiornamento*. When asked to explain his prayers and hopes for the council, he simply went to a window and threw it open, letting the fresh breeze wafting into the room express his intentions in a single gesture.

How did the Church prepare? The Church, in the three years preceding the council, embarked on an intense time of prayer, reflection and preparation. Bishops around the world submitted proposals for subjects to be discussed; more than 2,000 lists of proposals were submitted with detailed opinions from theologians. In June 1960, the Holy Father established 10 commissions to study particular questions, including Scripture, Tradition, faith and morals, Bishops and the control of Dioceses,

religious orders, the Liturgy, seminaries and ecclesiastical studies, missions, the Eastern Churches and the lay apostolate.

What was Pope John XXIII's opening message? The council opened on Oct. 11, 1962, with a solemn Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, with more than 2,500 Bishops present – the greatest gathering at any council in the history of the Church. After the Mass, Pope John addressed the council Fathers, communicating to them the direction and spirit of the council. Pope John emphasized that the Church must proclaim God's mercy and understanding, and pour out the riches the Church had received from Christ upon all people who place all their trust in God. The task of the council was to find ways that the Church could present itself to the world of today, and reach the minds and hearts of all.

### What they prayed:

**Veni Creator Spiritus** dates back to the ninth century. It has been solemnly chanted at the beginning of every new year, every new century, every ecumenical council, every conclave and many of the most solemn events of the Church since that time.

*Come Creator Spirit visit the minds of those who are yours; fill with heavenly grace the hearts you have created.*

*You who are called the Paraclete, gift of God's most high living fountain, fire, love and spiritual anointing for the soul.*

*You are sevenfold in your gifts the finger of God's right hand, you, the Father's solemn promise giving words to our lips.*

*Kindle a light in our senses pour love into our hearts, infirmities of this body of ours overcoming with strength secure*

*The enemy drive from us away, give us peace without delay, with you as guide to lead the way we avoid all cause of harm.*

*Grant we may know the Father through You, and come to know the Son as well, and may we always cling in faith to you, the spirit of them both. Amen.*

of bread and wine.

- Issued decrees on annual reception of the sacraments of confession and Holy Communion.

#### 13 Lyons I, 1245

- Deposed Emperor Frederick II for sacrilege and heresy.
- Addressed clerical morality.

#### 14 Lyons II, 1274

- Temporarily reunited the Greek Church with Rome
- Mandated that unleavened bread be used for the Eucharist.

#### 15 Vienne 1311-1312

- Abolished the Knights Templars.

#### 16 Constance 1414-1418

- Ended Great Western Schism.
- Decreed that ecumenical councils have authority over the Church.

#### 17 Basel, Ferrara, Florence 1431-1445

- Eastern Church agreement on the Holy Spirit, purgatory and Eucharist decrees from Lyons II.
- Affirmed the seven Sacraments.

#### 18 Lateran V, 1512-1517

- Reasserted: soul is form of body.
- Decree on indulgences.
- Clarified the relation of the Pope to an ecumenical council.

#### 19 Trent 1545-1563

- Decrees on grace, sin, merit, justification and sanctification.
- Affirmed Scripture and Tradition as the full deposit of faith.
- Defined the theology of the sacraments as a matter of faith.
- Established seminary system to train men for the priesthood.
- Defined infant baptism.

#### 20 Vatican I 1869-1870

- Defined papal infallibility when the Pope speaks *ex cathedra* (from the chair) on matters of faith and morals.
- Reaffirmed Church teachings on revelation and the relationship between faith and reason.

#### 21 Vatican II 1962-1965

- Allowed for native language to be used during liturgy.
- Affirmed the role of the laity.
- Affirmed the role of the Church in the modern world.
- Defined Church as People of God.
- Affirmed universal call to holiness of all people.



# St. Alexander Sauli

**Patron saint of Corsica**

**Canonized Dec. 11, 1904**

**Meaning of name: Man's defender, warrior**

**Feast Day: Oct. 11**

**Claim to Fame:** St. Alexander entered a Barnabite monastery at a young age, and soon became a philosophy and theology teacher at the local University of Pavia. In 1565, he was made the Superior General of the monastery. During his time there, St. Alexander came to be known as a passionate and influential preacher. In 1571, Pope Pius V appointed him as the Bishop of Aleria, Corsica, where the Church was basically dead. St. Alexander and three companions managed to revive it, however. They built churches and schools, and founded universities and seminaries while also correcting the Corsicans' behaviors and bringing them back to the Church. St. Alexander and his companions also helped the Corsicans fight off pirate raids. The Church eventually began to flourish there, but in 1591, St. Alexander was made bishop of Pavia, where he died a year later.

**What made him a saint:** St. Alexander willingly went to Corsica, where the people were corrupt and separated from the Church. He helped lead the people back to God, without using force of any kind, and despite the deaths of his companions, continued his work. Besides his work in Corsica, St. Alexander was a noted miracle worker, said to have performed prophesy, healing, and calming storms both in life and after his death. He also served as the spiritual advisor to St. Charles Borromeo and Pope Gregory XIV.

**Best Quote:** We know very little about St. Alexander's teachings, although it was said of him that he "was an exemplary pastor in an age of abuse and corruption."

**How he died:** St. Alexander returned to Italy in 1591 as Bishop of Pavia. A year later, on one of his visitations to churches in his diocese, he fell ill and died.

# San Alejandro Sauli

**Santo patrón de Córcega**

**Canonizado el 11 de diciembre de 1904**

**Significado del nombre: Defensor del hombre, guerrero**

**Día festivo: 11 de octubre**

**Hechos que le hicieron famoso:** St.

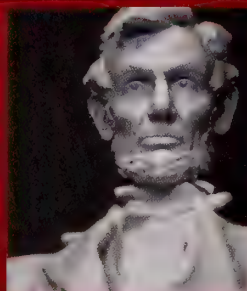
Alejandro ingresó muy joven a un monasterio barnabita, y pronto se hizo un maestro de filosofía y teología en la Universidad de Pavia. En 1565, lo nombraron Superior General del Monasterio. Durante su estadia allí, St. Alejandro se hizo conocido como un predicador ferviente e influyente. En 1571, el Papa Pio V lo nombró obispo de Aleria, Córcega, donde la Iglesia estaba, esencialmente, muerta. Sin embargo, St. Alejandro y tres compa-

ñeros lograron revivirla. Construyeron iglesias y escuelas, fundaron universidades y seminarios, y al mismo tiempo corrigieron las conductas de los corsos y los trajeron de vuelta a la Iglesia. St. Alejandro y sus compañeros también ayudaron a los corsos a repeler incursiones piratas. Con el tiempo la Iglesia comenzó a florecer allí, pero en 1591, St. Alejandro fue nombrado obispo de Pavia, donde murió un año más tarde.

**Por qué es un santo:** St. Alejandro fue, de buena voluntad a Córcega, donde la gente estaba corrompida y separada de la Iglesia. Él ayudó a devolver a la gente a Dios, sin utilizar fuerza de ninguna clase, y a pesar de la muerte de sus compañeros, continuó su trabajo. Además de su labor en Córcega, St. Alejandro fue un conocido taumaturgo, se dijo de él que había profetizado, curado y que había calmado tormentas tanto durante su vida como después de su muerte. También hizo las veces de consejero espiritual de San Carlos Borromeo y del Papa Gregorio XIV.

**Mejor cita:** Sabemos muy poco de las enseñanzas de St. Alejandro, aunque se dijo de él que "era un pastor ejemplar en una época de abusos y corrupción".

**Cómo murió:** St. Alejandro regresó a Italia en 1591 como obispo de Pavia. Un año más tarde, en una de sus visitas a las iglesias en su diócesis, se enfermó y murió.



## history quiz

**This month in history –**

**She thought he could improve his appearance by growing a beard.**

►► Eleven-year-old Grace Bedell of Westfield, N.Y. wrote a letter to presidential candidate, Abraham Lincoln, suggesting he could improve his appearance by growing a beard. Her letter was sent on **Oct. 15, WHAT YEAR?**

►► Polish Cardinal, Karol Wojtyla, took the name John Paul II when he

became Pope. He was the first non-Italian Pope in 456 years when the Roman Catholic College of Cardinals chose him on **Oct. 16, WHAT YEAR?**

►► Nylon stockings were made available to the general public for the first time when they were put on the shelves of a Wilmington, Delaware department store on **Oct. 24, WHAT YEAR?**

Answers: 1860, 1978, 1939



## AAME Thanks Mrs. Martha Bailey

**L**ife is full of changes. We often don't like changes because the familiar ceases to be and newness intrudes into our lives. But we face them with faith and hope. Change has come recently to The Office of African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization.

Mrs. Martha Bailey has resigned after six years of ministry to the Diocese of Raleigh. During Mrs. Bailey's tenure the ministry has been brought forcefully to the front in the Diocese and in the nation.

Outreach to all ages was revitalized. The outreach to the youth was rejuvenated by the Ambassadors of the Word program. Mrs. Bailey became involved in the Youth Department programs. She fostered Right to Life issues. HIV/AIDS was also part of her ministry.

The Ngambi for Young Adults, which began under Father Martin Carter, was continued and updated. For the elders, Harambee was begun. It focused initially on yearly pilgrimages to places of Catholic and African American interest.

In 2002, after the resignation of Sister Maxine Towns, S.A., as director, Bishop Gossman called me out of retirement and appointed me as Director. His instruction

was to take eighteen months to study and devise a plan to revitalize the ministry.

Father JaVan Saxon was a member of the Study Committee appointed by Bishop Gossman to confect the Plan. He was aware that many of our African Brothers and Sisters were coming into the Diocese of Raleigh, and he recommended that the title of the Office be changed to The Office of African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization.

Bishop Gossman appointed Mrs. Bailey as director to implement the approved plan. Bishop Burbidge, since assuming the mantle as Bishop of Raleigh, has given his full support and encouragement to the ministry.

Now we pray for Bishop Burbidge as he seeks a new Director for African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden

## Celebración de la Hispanidad

**C**elebramos una vez mas la herencia hispana, con la esperanza puesta en Dios para que por medio de su Espíritu Divino nos conceda el don de valorar no solo el número de inmigrantes que vienen a servir en los campos, las fabricas, los negocios, los restaurantes y hasta en los hogares de tantas personas, sino para poder comprender que en Cristo somos todos un solo pueblo.

La unidad del Pueblo de Dios no está basada en tener solamente un mismo rito litúrgico, tampoco por coincidir en las mismas creencias o tener los mismos sacramentos. Todo esto es importante, pero para que sea posible debemos todos reconocer a Cristo como el Único que ofreció su vida por nosotros en la Cruz, para reconciliarnos como hermanos y ante Dios, para hacer de todos los pueblos uno solo, el pueblo de Dios, animado por un mismo Espíritu, y llamados a construir en la unidad y en la justicia la verdadera paz y la auténtica libertad.

Por eso celebrar no es solo reconocer la presencia de tantos hermanos que enriquecen la fe en la diversidad, en las tradiciones y en la fe, sino que es una oportunidad para todos de reflexionar si estamos trabajando en la unidad, en la pertenencia y en la participación para construir el Reino de Dios en nuestras familias, nuestras comunidades parroquiales, nuestra comunidad diocesana y si estamos ayudando para que seamos hospitalarios con el hermano, con el extranjero y muchas veces con el desconocido, para ayudarnos a todos a construir la verdadera unidad y la auténtica comunión del Evangelio.

Por eso pedimos a Dios, por la intercesión de María Santísima e inspirados en este año Paulino por las enseñanzas del Apóstol de las gentes, para que cada día nos abra los ojos del corazón para reconocer al hermano, para construir la paz de Cristo en nuestras comunidades, con la fuera de su Espíritu, con la gracia de su amor y con el trabajo de todos los que aceptamos la fe en Cristo Nuestro Señor. ¡Que todos seamos hermanos, ciudadanos y colaboradores del reino de Dios!

— Padre Fernando Torres



As elections  
near, Catholics  
across North  
Carolina are  
making

# *Faithful* DECISIONS

**THIS NOVEMBER**, faithful Catholics in the Diocese of Raleigh will be voting their consciences. But they won't, whether on a national, state or local level, all be voting for the same candidates. And that, according to *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States*, is as it should be.



The document, approved by the full body of Bishops at its November 2007 General Meeting, can be read in full at <http://www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship/FCStatement.pdf> It begins with a powerful statement about the contradictory state of the nation:

"We are a nation founded on 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,' but the right to life itself is not fully protected, especially for unborn children, the most vulnerable members of the American family. We are called to be peacemakers in a nation at war. We are a country pledged to pursue 'liberty and justice for all,' but we are too often divided across lines of race, ethnicity, and economic inequality. We are a nation of immigrants, struggling to address the challenges of many new immigrants in our midst. We are a society built on the strength of our families, called to defend marriage and offer moral and economic supports for family life.

"We are a powerful nation in a violent world, confronting terror and trying to build a safer, more just, more peaceful world. We are an affluent society where too many live in poverty and lack health care and other necessities of life. We are part of a global community facing urgent threats to the environment that must sustain us."

The Bishops go on to explain that it is not the Church's intention to tell Catholics for whom to vote, but instead to help them form their consciences in accordance with God's truth.





Msgr. Michael G. Clay, Legislative Liaison for Bishop Burbidge and Lobbyist for Catholic Voice NC.

cloning and destructive research on human embryos, are also intrinsically evil. These must always be opposed. Other direct assaults on innocent human life and violations of human dignity, such as genocide, torture, racism, and the targeting of noncombatants in acts of terror or war, can never be justified."

Still, the Bishops say, "There may be times when a Catholic who rejects a candidate's unacceptable position may decide to vote for that candidate for other morally grave reasons. Voting in this way would be permissible only for truly grave moral reasons, not to advance narrow interests or partisan preferences or to ignore a fundamental moral evil."

"When all candidates hold a position in favor of an intrinsic evil, the conscientious voter faces a dilemma. The voter may decide to take the extraordinary step of not voting for any candidate or, after careful deliberation, may decide to vote for the candidate deemed less likely to advance such a morally flawed position and more likely to pursue other authentic human goods."

As Rosenhauer stressed, "Faithful citizenship goes well beyond voting. It's about working at all

**L**ast spring, Joan Rosenhauer, Associate Director of the USCCB Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development, and an important collaborator in the formation of the Bishops' statement, spoke to catechists in Raleigh. "The message begins," she said, "by connecting faith and politics with the Eucharist. What does the Eucharist mean and what does it call us to?" She quoted John Paul II, who wrote that "our mutual love and concern for those in need" will be "the criterion by which our Eucharistic celebration is judged."

"So we are called to love God and to love others in every action of our lives," Rosenhauer said, "and a key place for that is in our opportunities as citizens."

In their document, the Bishops point out that not all issues are of equal importance: "There are some things we must never do, as individuals or as a society, because they are always incompatible with love of God and neighbor. Such actions are so deeply flawed that they are always opposed to the authentic good of persons. These are called 'intrinsically evil' actions. They must always be rejected and opposed and must never be supported or condoned. A prime example is the intentional taking of innocent human life, as in abortion and euthanasia..."

"Similarly, direct threats to the sanctity and dignity of human life, such as human



## How Is Conscience Formed?

**1.** First, there is a desire to embrace goodness and truth. For Catholics this begins with a willingness and openness to seek the truth and what is right by studying Sacred Scripture and the teaching of the Church as contained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

**2.** It is also important to examine the facts and background information about various choices.

**3.** Prayerful reflection is essential to discern the will of God.

times for a society that respects the dignity of every human being, that seeks the common good, and that protects the weak and the vulnerable.”

To help North Carolina Catholics further that objective, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, and the Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte, announced in July the creation of Catholic Voice NC, a statewide initiative to give Catholics in North Carolina the opportunity to communicate with their state legislators on issues of importance.

At a news conference at the State Legislative Building in Raleigh, the Bishops outlined the focus of Catholic Voice NC and unveiled a new joint website, [www.CatholicVoiceNC.org](http://www.CatholicVoiceNC.org), which will provide information to subscribers on legislative matters of interest to Catholics in light of Catholic teaching. Subscribers will receive “alerts” notifying them of pending legislation and have access to a system allowing them the capability to voice their support or objection to the legislation by email, telephone or regular mail.

“Our primary concern will always be the sacredness of all human life and the dignity of each and every person: the unborn, the underprivileged and the often forgotten... individuals who do not have very many advocates or lobbyists,” Bishop Burbidge said.

“Catholic Voice North Carolina will not endorse candidates or political parties,” Bishop Jugis said in his statement. “We will call Catholics to action on legislative matters that touch upon Holy Scripture and/or the teaching of the Catholic Church.”

At the same news conference, the Bishops announced that Msgr. Michael Clay, Pastor of St. Ann Catholic Church in Clayton, would be a registered lobbyist to the State Legislature on issues of concern to Catholics. Msgr. Clay spoke with *NC Catholics* about issues of this kind which may occupy lawmakers in the upcoming session of the North Carolina General Assembly.

“Funding for embryonic stem cell research will likely reappear,” Msgr. Clay said. “Efforts will be made to get legislation passed that will ask for a constitutional amendment to be placed on the ballot defining marriage as a union between one man and one woman at one time. It has failed for five years to be voted on in either chamber of the legislature and next year it will face an uphill battle.”

“Comprehensive sex education will likely be back in the next session. Proponents want to replace abstinence-based sex education with this version.

An effort will be made to recognize the murder of a pregnant woman and her unborn child as a double homicide. This too will face an uphill struggle from adversaries who are anxious about any recognition of an unborn child as a human being. The ‘Choose Life’ license plate will be introduced again and it will face opposition from pro-choice lobbyists and legislators.”

So the election is only part of the journey for faithful Catholic citizens.

With well-formed consciences and well-informed minds, the next step will be letting their voices be heard – in Washington, in Raleigh, and in their hometowns.

“Legislators have told us,” Msgr. Clay said, “that the voices of their constituents are heard, especially if they oppose pending legislation. All politics is local, as the saying goes, and a legislator doesn’t generally want to alienate a constituency in his or her district, especially one who argues from rational moral principles. Catholics in a legislative district who ban together to voice a united front

on an issue will likely be heard. A legislator who runs unopposed, wins by a wide margin, and/or enjoys significant power may be more immune to the voices of opposition but that shouldn’t deter voters from expressing their position on pending legislation, especially if it is inconsistent with the moral principles of the Church that exist for the common good.”

### Faithful Citizenship in Scripture

**Woe to those who enact evil statutes**

**And to those who constantly record unjust decisions,**

**So as to deprive the needy of justice**

**And rob the poor of My people of their rights, So that widows may be their spoil**

**And that they may plunder the orphans.**

**Now what will you do in the day of punishment, And in the devastation which will come from afar?**

— Isaiah 10: 1-3

In an effort to help Catholic voters form their consciences in carrying out their civic responsibility to vote, the Diocese of Raleigh and the Diocese of Charlotte sent a questionnaire to candidates seeking elected office in the North Carolina General Assembly, the office of Governor of North Carolina, the United State House of Representatives and the United States Senate. The survey included a range of questions elected officials will confront in the next two years. More than 300

questionnaires were sent out with approximately one-third returned. The information is available on the Diocese of Raleigh website at [www.dioceseofraleigh.org/candidates](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/candidates).

The link will take you to a “Lookup Officials” page. Simply write in your address and click **continue** to view the survey information on the Senate, House, Governor and local General Assembly races.





# Inmigración

**D**onald Kerwin, Director Ejecutivo de Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc (CLINIC por sus siglas en inglés), consejero del comité de inmigración de la USCCB, *Non-Resident Fellow at the Migration Policy Institute*, y el *Associate Fellow* en el *Woodstock Theological Center* se reunieron con la revista *NC Catholics* para discutir los asuntos de inmigración en los Estados Unidos.

## ¿Han cambiado las causas de la inmigración en estos años? ¿Cuáles son las principales causas hoy en día?

Sí y no. En general, la desesperación económica los motiva a buscar una mejor vida para ellos y para sus familias, la necesidad de escapar a la persecución o de pedir asilo político siguen siendo las causas primordiales en todos estos años, por ejemplo: la Iglesia Católica ha ayudado con la ubicación de por lo menos 900.000 refugiados desde la caída de Saigon.

Hoy en día, la economía estadounidense también contribuye de gran manera a la inmigración. La realidad es que un 16% de la mano de obra está compuesta por inmigrantes (de los cuales un 5% de estos trabajadores son indocumentados). Ambas industrias, como la tecnológica en *Silicon Valley*, y la agrícola, etc., dependen de la mano de obra de los inmigrantes, incluso, la mayoría de los expertos reconoce que estas industrias podrían colapsar sin la ayuda de ellos.

Este problema afecta a comunidades enteras, en especial, la rural y las comunidades aledañas a las ciudades las cual han sido revitalizadas por los inmigrantes, tal es el caso de Iowa, una de las áreas cuyo crecimiento demográfico es mayor a los 100 años o más y su economía enfrenta una reducción de más de 300.000 trabajadores de acuerdo al gobernador anterior.

Según proyecciones del presidente de la Reserva Federal, Ben Bernanke, alrededor de 78 millones de personas nacidas después

de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, quienes están pronto a jubilarse en los próximos años, éste país necesitará de la ayuda de 3.5 millones de nuevos trabajadores al año para reemplázalos. ¿De dónde vendrán estos trabajadores? Solo hay dos opciones: de los trabajadores inmigrantes a los Estados Unidos y de los ciudadanos estadounidenses que trabajan mucho más del tiempo de jubilación reglamentario.

## ¿De qué forma ha influenciado NAFTA y la globalización en la

### inmigración hacia los Estados Unidos?

El Tratado de Libre Comercio de América del Norte TLCAN conocido también por TLC o NAFTA (por sus siglas en inglés *North American Free Trade Agreement*) es una de las causas de inmigración que difiere del pasado, porque tenemos un orden económico que reconoce el derecho de obtener productos y servicios de otras fronteras, más no le da el derecho a las personas de cruzar la frontera gracias a este movimiento de productos y servicios.

12 años después de la creación del TLCAN, dos millones de mexicanos en el sector agrícola perdieron sus trabajos en parte por el subsidio en las exportaciones de Estados Unidos. Pero, ¿a dónde se fueron? Algunos se unieron a la cadena de trabajadores "ilegales" en los Estados Unidos; otras víctimas de este proceso son los trabajadores de prendas de vestir de El Paso, quienes perdieron sus trabajos cuando las fábricas se mudaron a México. El punto es, que somos testigos de la inmensa oleada de desplazados, pero nuestras leyes y las políticas de inmigración no reflejan esta realidad.

## ¿Qué tanto influye, la raza y la religión en el público con respecto a la inmigración?

Hay una creciente cantidad de personas en el país que cree que la raza, la religión, la cultura y el país de origen son relevantes. En el pasado, ser estadounidense significaba ser parte de un país conformado en su mayoría por inmigrantes comprometidos por valores cívicos similares como el de la democracia, la igualdad, los derechos y las oportunidades; significaba ser fiel al país, apoyando valores cívicos comunes y a las instituciones.

Ahora existe un movimiento que está de acuerdo en que esto no significa ser estadounidense porque para este grupo, los estadounidenses son un grupo separado de personas conectadas por atributos en común, a pesar de que los que proponen este punto de vista, tratan de no describir mucho estos atributos porque sonaría un poco antiestadounidense. Sin embargo, la cultura occidental, la raza, la religión y el origen son candidatos.



En mi opinión, no creo que este punto de vista motive a la gente con respecto a este asunto de inmigración, en su lugar, pienso que la situación económica de cada persona y el sentimiento de desplazamiento juega un papel importante. La incertidumbre económica mezclada con sentimientos de que la comunidad se hace cada vez más irreconocible, contribuye a la creación de ese sentimiento antiemigrante.

Es interesante acotar que la gran mayoría de los recursos están dirigidos a la frontera de Estados Unidos y México y no a la frontera con Canadá, en especial cuando sabemos que la mayoría de los terroristas han entrado a este país por Canadá.

**Muchos han cuestionado la postura de la Iglesia con respecto a la inmigración y la consideran en contra de los intereses de los Estados Unidos, particularmente, en términos de soberanía nacional y los derechos subsecuentes a la regulación de las fronteras. ¿Es esta crítica legítima? ¿Cómo podemos entender la postura de la Iglesia?**

No, no es una crítica legítima. Hoy en día, escuchamos todo tipo de falsedades intentando teñir la postura de la Iglesia de antiestadounidense e interesada con respecto a los inmigrantes indocumentados diciendo: "La Iglesia busca hacer dinero con los indocumentados para distraer al público sobre los escándalos de abuso sexual, y para incrementar a sus seguidores." No obstante, estas calumnias no serían toleradas si fueran dirigidas a cualquier otro grupo.

La Iglesia ha reconocido en repetidas oportunidades el derecho de un país de controlar sus fronteras y el de regular la inmigración. Sin embargo, esto debe ser tratado bajo la rubrica de la promoción del bien común, la razón primordial de la existencia de un país en primer lugar.

En general, el apoyo de la Iglesia está a favor del ser humano y de la aplicación del orden y es por ello que los Obispos de los Estados Unidos han argumentado por algún tiempo, el asunto de la inmigración. Todos los días, muchas personas mueren en la frontera, las

familias son separadas, y los trabajadores son explotados. Un orden humanitario y eficaz es aquel que por ejemplo, evite muertes al cruzar la frontera, limite la detención de personas que presentan un riesgo y se evite la política de deportación que resulte en la destrucción de familias estadounidenses.

Para la Iglesia, no existe conflicto entre el bien común y el derecho otorgado por Dios. Por ejemplo, si una persona es perseguida y no tiene otro recurso más que dejar su país de origen, esta persona tiene el derecho y el deber de irse, y apelar a un estado soberano en estas circunstancias es difícil porque la soberanía trata de identificar la responsabilidad del estado para promover los derechos y el bien común.

En resumen, el estado puede regular la inmigración y mantener fuera a todo aquel que no tenga que entrar, pero aquellos que están tratando de mantener a sus familias, escapando a la persecución y ejercitando el derecho otorgado por Dios, deben ser admitidos y bienvenidos.

**Siempre escuchamos sobre el impacto negativo que generan en la economía los indocumentados: en los impuestos, en los servicios sociales, etc.**

**¿Qué tan cierto es todo esto?**

Cada vez que escucho que los inmigrantes no pagan impuestos, lo cual es casi siempre, les hago la siguiente pregunta a las personas que hacen dicha afirmación: ¿alguna vez ha visto si un cajero de algún mercado se niegue a recibir el impuesto del valor de los alimentos, al saber que esa persona es indocumentada? La verdad es que todo el mundo paga impuestos y la mayoría de los indocumentados pagan impuesto sobre la renta.

En el 2005, el Seguro Social estimó que tiene \$580 billones de dólares en una cuenta de fondos suspendidos, dinero que no puede ser identificado a ningún portador del número de seguro social. Este dinero proviene de trabajadores indocumentados que jamás recibirán los beneficios de su trabajo.

Hace 10 años, el *Research Council of the National Academy of Science* publicó un reporte estimando que los inmigrantes

indocumentados y sus hijos pagaran \$80.00 dólares más en impuestos a lo largo de sus vidas y jamás recibirán nada de esos beneficios. Así que el problema no está en si los inmigrantes pagan los impuestos o no, el problema está en que la mayoría de esos impuestos provenientes de este grupo es destinado al gobierno federal, pero los estados llevan la carga de brindar educación y salud. Así que mientras el gobierno federal recibe un excedente, el estado y el gobierno local experimenta pérdidas. La cuestión recae en cómo debemos compartir estos recursos equitativamente.

**¿Le gustaría compartir algo más con nuestros lectores sobre inmigración?**

Nos enfrentamos a un problema bastante complejo que requiere de una solución global. La iglesia enseña que el pueblo tiene el derecho a emigrar, lo que significa buscar una solución a la pobreza, y al desarrollo económico global y no tratarlo solo como un problema local. Sin embargo, no podemos ignorar que hay gente real atrapada en esta realidad en estos momentos. ¿Cómo podemos encontrar una solución a este problema reflejando nuestros valores religiosos y cívicos?

En este momento histórico, muchos tienen la visión de un país que no reconoce la contribución que realizan los 12 millones de inmigrantes y los clasifican como "ilegales forajidos," pero la gente no puede ser ilegal en nuestra tradición como tampoco se puede considerar a un niño de ilegítimo porque todos somos hijos de Dios. Estas etiquetas despectivas previenen realizar políticas humanistas, además de culpar a todos los "ilegales" por lo que pasa en el sistema médico, en el trabajo y hasta de las ratas que hay en nuestras escuelas públicas.

Sin embargo, yo no creo que este sentimiento prevalezca; nosotros somos buenas personas que reconocemos la dignidad que Dios les dio, aceptando a los inmigrantes como personas y apoyando las políticas humanitarias de inmigración. No estamos contentos al ver como separan a familias y como mueren sin necesidad. Estoy seguro que algún día, tendremos políticas más aptas a nuestros valores y a nuestra herencia.



## Dear NCC: ¿Mitad Humano, Mitad Animal?

**L**os científicos británicos han recibido recientemente de su agencia reguladora la autorización para crear “embriones híbridos”. Estos embriones se producen mediante técnicas de clonación, utilizando para ello partes humanas y animales. Al inyectar un núcleo humano (el “paquete genético humano”) dentro de un óvulo de vaca al que se le ha retirado su propio paquete genético, se puede crear un embrión humano defectuoso.



**Padre Tad Pacholczyk**  
— El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk hizo su doctorado en neurociencias en la Universidad de Yale y su trabajo post-doctoral en la Universidad de Harvard. Es Sacerdote para la Diócesis de Fall River, Massachusetts, y se desempeña como Director de Educación en el Centro Nacional Católico de Bioética en Philadelphia. The National Catholic Bioethics Center: [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)  
Traducción: María Elena Rodríguez

Algunas personas imaginan que el resultado de esto sería una criatura mitad humano y mitad animal, y de ahí el nombre “embrión híbrido”. Sin embargo, debido a que el paquete genético nuclear es completamente humano, en realidad el nuevo embrión sería humano, pero con varias moléculas vacunas presentes como “contaminantes” dentro del mecanismo bioquímico del embrión. La razón para tratar de producir estos embriones humanos con defecto es el poder destruirlos antes de que crezcan demasiado, es decir, antes de que lleguen a dos semanas de edad, y así poder obtener sus células madre.

Este extraño proyecto de producir embriones humanos parcialmente dañados utilizando para ello óvulos vacunos está siendo promovido en gran parte debido a la dificultad para lograr que las mujeres acepten donar sus óvulos. La mayoría de las mujeres rechaza la idea de ceder voluntariamente sus óvulos para que los científicos los usen en experimentos de clonación. Este procedimiento para obtener óvulos no solo es invasivo, doloroso y peligroso para la mujer sino que frecuentemente ella siente un natural instinto protector hacia sus propios óvulos, hacia su fertilidad y hacia los hijos que estos óvulos pudieran engendrar.

Este instinto de proteger a la prole está profundamente arraigado no solo en los seres humanos sino en todo el reino animal, y no hace falta una reflexión profunda para darnos cuenta del problema moral de producir prole humana en laboratorios, usando una amalgama con componentes vacunos, para luego canibalizarlos científicamente.

Este instinto natural de proteger a nuestra prole lo vemos ilustrado de manera impactante en el caso del Pingüino Emperador. Éste es el único animal de sangre caliente lo suficientemente fuerte como para permanecer en la Antártida durante todo el invierno, mientras que los demás migran a climas menos fríos. La narración de los hábitos reproductivos del Pingüino Emperador ha fascinado a millones

## Querido lector de NCC

Por: Padre Tad Pacholczyk

en la reciente película *La Marcha de los Pingüinos*. Estos animales encuentran una pareja, a quien le son singularmente fieles, y cada hembra pone un huevo del tamaño de una pelota de fútbol, misma que cede a su pareja. Durante los dos meses siguientes ella se ocupa frenéticamente de alimentarse en aguas oceánicas, dejando al macho incubando el huevo durante lo peor del invierno polar y manteniéndose únicamente con su grasa corporal.

En medio de tremendas ventiscas y durante semanas de obscuridad invernal, el macho cuidadosamente balancea sobre sus patas el huevo que contiene el embrión del pingüino en crecimiento, envolviéndolo con su denso plumaje y aislándolo completamente del frío que podría matarlo. Ese huevo permanecerá sobre sus patas por más de 60 días, período durante el cual el macho no come nada y pierde hasta la mitad de su peso corporal. Si el huevo cayera de ese refugio protector se congelaría sobre el hielo polar en cuestión de pocos minutos. La madre normalmente regresa cuando se acerca el momento en que el polluelo rompe el cascarón. Después que esto sucede, el pequeño Pingüino Emperador permanece sus dos primeros meses acurrucado bajo el plumaje protector de su papá o su mamá, donde la temperatura se mantiene alrededor de 36°C (96.8°F). Los padres se turnan en el cuidado del pequeño pingüino, dándole alimento regurgitado hasta que está listo para salir de su refugio secreto y enfrentar los severos elementos de la Antártida.

El increíble esmero del Pingüino Emperador por sus crías en estado previo al nacimiento, protegiéndolos escrupulosamente aun en esas vulnerables etapas embrionarias, es un poderoso testimonio del adecuado orden que existe en la creación, donde los integrantes adultos de la especie, de manera natural, hacen lo extraordinario para asegurar la salvaguarda y el bienestar de los integrantes más pequeños.

Parte del progreso de la civilización humana a través de los siglos ha estado en una protección similar de los pequeños, donde los niños han sido considerados como un bien sagrado y como un fin en sí mismos, y no meramente como un medio para satisfacer los deseos de los padres (o de los científicos). El Padre Raymond de Souza ha resumido el tema muy bien:

“Es distintivo de la civilización occidental que los niños sean vistos como un bien por derecho propio,



personas con derechos y dignidad confiados al cuidado de sus padres. Esta es una idea tan común que no nos detenemos a considerarla como un gran logro de la civilización, pero lo es. En el mundo antiguo tanto el infanticidio como el sacrificio de niños no eran raros, y en general su estado legal era equiparable al de cualquier otra propiedad del patrimonio familiar. Fue necesaria una larga y dolorosa labor durante siglos –apelando tanto a recursos religiosos como civiles– para poder llegar a la aceptación cultural y legal de que el niño no existe como un objeto para beneficio de los demás, sino que debe ser tratado como un sujeto por propio derecho”.

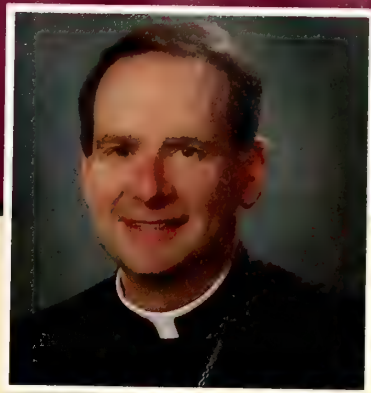
Actualmente, sin embargo, estamos siendo fuertemente tentados a sabotear estas intuiciones e instintos arrancando a nuestros pequeños, con la fuerza del aborto, del refugio protector del vientre de su madre, y no sólo eso, sino profanando nuestros propios hijos en embrión como si fuesen simples objetos para la maximización científica, tratándolos como piezas de almacén para producir repuestos o células madre.

Hay quienes en nuestra sociedad pretenden hacer parecer que este tipo de experimentación científica representa “progreso”, cuando la realidad es que significa un retroceso a aquellas épocas en las que los niños eran considerados cosas que la gente podía utilizar. Una de las razones por las que *La Marcha de los Pingüinos* tuvo tanto éxito fue por la forma en que enalteció el amor, la protección y el sacrificio de los padres que a todos nosotros, de manera natural, nos impulsan. La destrucción de nuestra propia progenie mediante la experimentación con células madre embrionarias –por más que algunos quieran maquillarla con términos técnicos como “híbridos”– es un regreso al barbarismo de épocas pasadas.

El grado extraordinario en el que algunos integrantes del reino animal buscan proteger a sus crías embrionarias debe darnos una pausa para reflexionar como sociedad sobre cuestiones básicas, y ayudarnos a recuperar el equilibrio moral. De no ser así, continuaremos cayendo en picada, transgrediendo nuestra propia naturaleza y nuestras más sagradas obligaciones hacia nuestros pequeños. ☪

## La gran campaña por la vida

**A** lo largo del proceso político, hemos escuchado mucho de los candidatos y de sus campañas. Durante este periodo, es evidente que se que los candidatos necesitan mucho entusiasmo y perseverancia para llenar las expectativas y las exigencias de la campaña.



En este mes del respeto a la vida, la Iglesia nos recuerda otro tipo de campaña, aquella destacada por el Papa Juan II en su encíclico *Evangelium Vitali*: “La gran campaña por la vida” Es una campaña perpetua que requiere de mucho entusiasmo, perseverancia, generosidad y sacrificio, sobre todo en las palabras que decimos, en nuestras acciones, y el testimonio que ofrecemos, debemos trabajar sin descanso para erradicar todo lo que destruya la vida humana, en especial el aborto y el uso de células madre para el uso científico. Nunca debemos abandonar nuestro esfuerzo en defender lo sagrado de cada persona, sobre todo la de los pacientes terminales, de los discapacitados y de los inmigrantes.

En este momento crítico en la vida de nuestro país, tenemos la extraordinaria oportunidad de hacer campaña por la vida en la arena pública con nuestra participación como ciudadanos fieles en los comicios electorales. Agradecemos a Dios por todo aquel que ha sacrificado su vida para darnos el derecho al voto. Recordemos que el ejercicio de nuestro voto requiere un claro entendimiento de los temas y de la posición de cada candidato, en conjunto con el compromiso de la oración y el discernimiento, para que nuestro voto sea siempre realizado con la luz del Evangelio de la Vida. Para ayudarlos con este proceso, ingresen a la página Web de la Diócesis, que incluye el documento escrito por los Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos “Formando la conciencia para ser ciudadanos fieles” También los invito a que accedan a otra vasta fuente de información disponible (en inglés) gracias a la iniciativa de la Diócesis de Raleigh y Charlotte, *Catholic Voice North Carolina* por <http://www.catholicvoicenc.org/>

Dentro de poco, las campañas políticas terminaran por un tiempo, pero, la gran campaña por la vida no tiene fin. Debemos orar diariamente para ponerle fin al aborto en los Estados Unidos y en el mundo entero. También debemos buscar constantemente la manera de aliviar el sufrimiento de los demás, sobre todo, de aquellos que no tienen los recursos necesarios para comprar alimentos o ropa. Además, visitemos a los prisioneros y a los que no tienen a nadie en esta vida, ayudemos a todo aquel en nuestra comunidad que se encuentre fuera de los límites de la protección legal. Tenemos que hacer evidente nuestro rechazo a cualquier forma de racismo y prejuicio en nuestras comunidades y en nuestros trabajos. Debemos apoyar la vida en la arena pública.

Esta perpetua campaña por la vida demanda mucho de todos nosotros. A veces, sentimos que nuestro esfuerzo no hace la diferencia, y nos sentimos cansados, y nos encontramos con la opción de dejar de ser testigos de fe, en vez de resistir el sufrimiento que trae consigo. En este año Paulino, recibamos la inspiración de este gran Apóstol, en especial durante el Mes del Respeto a la Vida, para dedicarnos a la tarea esencial de proteger y defender lo mas sagrado de la vida humana, desde el momento de la concepción hasta la muerte natural. En palabras según San Pablo: “Alégrense en la esperanza, muestren paciencia en el sufrimiento, perseveren en la oración” (Romanos 12:12) Si le hacemos caso a San Pablo, podemos estar seguros que con la gracia de Dios, nuestra gran campaña por la vida será victoriosa por el poder que nos concede en el trabajo, Jesucristo nuestro Señor.

– Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh



**I**an has always wanted a boat – and figures his recent bonus is a way to make his dream come true. Kim would rather have a savings account.

## I just got a bonus – let's buy a boat!

### he says

**Ian says:** I just got a big bonus from work and I want to buy the boat I've always dreamed of having. It would be great – and Kim and I could take the kids out every weekend in the summer for some family fun. I don't know why Kim isn't as excited as I am.

## Is he kidding? We can't afford it.

### she says

**Kim says:** I'm really proud of Ian for getting that bonus, but the last thing we need is a boat. We have no money in our retirement account, and this could be a great start to a nest egg. We really can't afford this kind of luxury.

### What do they do?

We could almost label this scenario as a 'clash of the causes'! On the surface, it appears one spouse desires recreation and the other desires security; both desire the fulfillment of a dream.

Ian's and Kim's surface disconnection is not unusual; nor is their lack of joint planning for what is important at this particular stage in their marriage. In the early years of marriage, most couples who openly respect each other share their dreams and expectations in sufficient details so that this type of disconnect doesn't happen. But sometimes 'life just happens' – children arrive on the scene, work starts to take more time away from sharing time with our spouse and we tend to drift apart by not sharing our dreams and desires. Then, out of the blue, one of us springs on the other a statement like Ian made: "I want to buy the boat I've always dreamed of having."

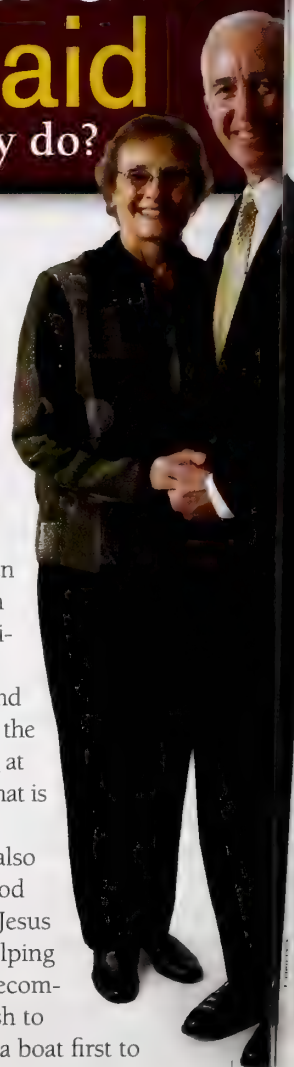
We rather doubt that the statement by itself is the issue, or his desire to buy a boat, or her desire to start a nest egg. One of the issues here is the timing! Not that there is a right time, but when couples start to drift apart, real communication falters and then just about any statement made by one spouse would most likely be a surprise to the other spouse. Most marriages can handle bad news and survive; yet many marriages find it difficult to handle surprises well – even good surprises like an unexpected bonus. For Ian and Kim, we would recommend



He said  
She said  
what do they do?

an exercise that tends to work well in this type of situation. Ian and Kim should write down the pros and cons associated with buying the boat, with starting a retirement account, and with Ian receiving a bonus based on his work skills and commitment to family and his job. They may even wish to try and quantify their pros and cons with a dollar amount written alongside the pros and cons. When finished, exchange the lists and read them silently. After reading the lists, ask for clarification and then begin an open dialogue by telling each other what the strengths and weaknesses are with each pro and con on the list. Go through the complete list, starting at the top (not by picking the one pro/con that is most upsetting.)

In the dialogue, Ian and Kim should also be asking the question, "What would God like us to do with this extra money?" If Jesus were sitting here at our kitchen table helping us make this decision, what would he recommend? Ultimately, Ian and Kim may wish to discuss a compromise. They could rent a boat first to





## The bill box ignoring it won't work

**W**hether or not it's in your wallet, it's nearly always on your mind. Money — and how to manage it — is a topic many of us wrestle with daily. We turned to Ted Zale, a veteran financial adviser, for some practical pocketbook advice. Here are tips that can help you today:

**The bill box:** You can't ignore it, though some of Zale's clients admit they've tried that route. "I've heard from couples where one spouse would just toss all the bills in the bucket and the other one wouldn't look at them," he said. "That doesn't work." Get a cash management system that works with your budget. It's not as complex as it sounds. Zale suggests the time-honored envelope approach. Label an envelope for each category of monthly expenses ("groceries," "entertainment," and so on) and fill it with

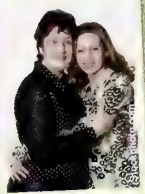


the appropriate amount of cash. As needs and wants arise, dig into the envelope to cover the cost. When the cash is gone, it's gone. No refills. This down-home approach is a great way to curb impulse purchases while still allowing couples flexibility to have some fun, he said.

ensure boating is something the entire family would like to participate in. They can discuss the possibilities of using some of the money to start a retirement account, some of it going to charity and the remainder for purchasing a boat. Granted, the boat may be smaller than Ian initially desired, but Tom believes God would be pleased and Kim would be a happier wife, which would be most beneficial to the relationship. Finally, Jo believes Ian should think twice about his crazy idea, because a boat is just a hole in the water that you throw money into! By the way, did we mention Tom has a small boat for sale?

— Tom and JoAnne Fogle

## Not a child anymore How to share your faith with your young-adult children



**The challenge for parents of millennials is to allow the autonomy necessary for their continued development in emerging adulthood.**

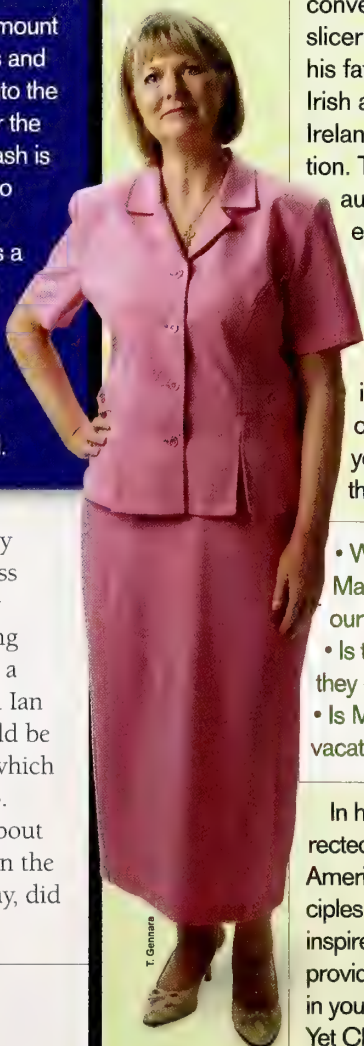
**A** decade ago, a national poll investigated the attitudes of 13- to 17-year-olds. Laurie Goodstein and Marjorie Connelly reported about 66 percent of the adolescents felt their parents were "in touch with what life was like." The majority felt that they got along with their parents either very well (51 percent) or fairly well (46 percent). The teens were spiritual, with 94 percent professing a belief in God, but also worldly, aware of uncensored aspects of our culture. They were a conservative generation in many ways, "... as wholesome and devoid of cynicism as the generation that wore saddle shoes." Now, with memories of the Y2K bug becoming ancient history, parents are launching these millennials into the worlds of college, work and adulthood.

**Still connected.** Adult millennials remain close to their parents. When I taught a study abroad class, these secure attachments came up frequently in everyday conversations. One student saw a Waterford crystal cake slicer that her mother would appreciate. Another wished his father could share an experience that reflected their Irish ancestry, since his dad never had the chance to visit Ireland. This warmth reflects that of many of their generation. The challenge for parents of millennials is to allow the autonomy necessary for their continued development in emerging adulthood.

**Spiritual seekers.** Most millennials in the U.S. report they are spiritual individuals. But they are seeking ways to express this spirituality. Pope John Paul II pointed out that we are invited to the Eucharist for nourishment, "The Eucharist helps love to triumph in us — love over hatred, zeal over indifference." How do we help our young adult children allow love to triumph? Reflect on these questions:

- When millennials respond to God's invitation to attend Mass, is this triumph of love evident in the relationships in our parish communities?
- Is the zeal of the faith obvious in our lives as parents so that they observe the importance of the eucharistic banquet?
- Is Mass something that they've noticed can be set aside on vacations or for a good tee time?

In his homily at Yankee Stadium, Pope Benedict XVI directed many of his remarks specifically to the young people of America. He noted that in the Gospel, Jesus promised his disciples that they would perform great works (Jn 14:12). The pope inspired his listeners, saying, "Dear friends, only God in his providence knows what works his grace has yet to bring forth in your lives and in the life of the church in the United States. Yet Christ's promise fills us with sure hope." — Dr. Cathleen McGreal







# Immigration

**D**onald Kerwin, Executive Director of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC), Advisor to the USCCB's Committee on Migration, Non-Resident Fellow at the Migration Policy Institute, and Associate Fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center recently met with Faith Magazine to discuss the issue of immigration in the United States.

## Have the major causes of immigration changed over the years? What are the primary causes today?

Yes and no. On a basic level, economic desperation, which drives many to seek a better life for themselves and their families, and the need to escape persecution or to seek political asylum remain primary causes regardless of the particular time period considered. For example, the Catholic Church has assisted in the relocation and placement of around 900,000 refugees since the fall of Saigon.

Today, U.S. economic needs also contribute greatly to immigration. The truth is that 16% of the U.S. workforce is composed of immigrants (5% of these workers are undocumented). Both high-end industries, such as those found in Silicon Valley, and low-end industries, such as the agricultural and garment industries, depend on immigration labor. Most experts recognize that these industries would collapse without this labor.

This issue also affects entire communities, especially rural and inner-city communities, which immigrants can revitalize. Consider the case of Iowa, whose fastest growing demographic is the 100 year-old and plus age group and whose economy is

facing a shortage of more than 300,000 workers according to their past governor.

As some 78 million baby boomers begin to retire over the next several years, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Ben Bernanke, has projected that the U.S. will need 3.5 million workers per year to replace them. Where will these workers come from? There are only two options: immigrant laborers and U.S. citizens working beyond the typical retirement age.

## How has NAFTA and globalization fueled immigration to the U.S.?

This is one cause of immigration that does differ from the past. We have an economic order that increasingly recognizes the right of goods and services to cross international boundaries but not the right of the people being displaced by this movement of goods and services to cross borders.

In the 12 years after the passage of NAFTA, two million Mexicans working in the agriculture sector lost their jobs in part because subsidized U.S. exports drove them out of the market. Where have they gone? Some have joined the "illegal" migrant labor stream in the U.S. Another casualty would be the garment workers in El Paso who lost their jobs when the companies relocated manufacturing to Mexico. The point is that we are experiencing the massive displacement of people, but our legal regimes and immigration policies do not reflect this reality.

## How much effect, if any, does race and religion impact the public's view on immigration?

There does seem to be a growing body of people in the country for whom race, religion, culture and country of origin are very important. In the past, being an American meant being part of a country formed by immigrants who were committed to core civic values like democracy, equality, rights and opportunity. It meant being loyal to the country and supporting common civic values and institutions.

Now there is a growing movement that says this is not what makes an American. For this group, Americans are a separate people connected by common attributes, although proponents of this view are careful not to describe these attributes too carefully because to do so begins to sound very un-American. However, Western culture, race, religion and national origin are candidates.

I do not believe that this view directly motivates most



people's concerns on immigration. Instead, I think that a person's own economic situation and sense of displacement plays a bigger role. Economic uncertainty coupled with feelings that one's community is becoming unrecognizable contributes to anti-immigrant sentiment as such concerns get displaced onto immigrants.

It is interesting though to note that a great majority of border resources go to enforcement on the U.S.-Mexico border instead of the U.S.-Canada border, especially when one considers that most confirmed terrorists have entered from Canada or ports-of-entry at airports.

**Many have questioned the Church's stance on immigration as somehow being opposed to the interest of the United States, especially in terms of national sovereignty and the subsequent right to regulate its borders. Is this a legitimate critique? How are we to understand the Church's stance?**

No, it is not a legitimate critique. Today, one hears all kinds of falsehoods that attempt to paint the Church's stance on undocumented immigration as somehow anti-American and crassly self-interested: the Church is looking to make money off the undocumented, to divert attention from the sex abuse scandals, and to increase membership. A great deal of it amounts to calumny and would not be tolerated if it were directed at any other group.

The Church has recognized repeatedly the right of a state to control its borders and to regulate immigration. However, this must be conducted under the rubric of the promoting the common good – the very reason for the state to exist in the first place.

In general, Church advocacy has been in favor of humane and effective enforcement.

U.S. bishops have been talking for some time about immigration as a life issue. Every day people are dying on the border, families are being broken apart, and workers are being exploited. These

are things that go right to the question of the dignity of the person. Humane and effective enforcement policies would be those, for example, which resulted in no crossing deaths, limited detention to people who presented a risk, and avoided deportation policies that result in the destruction of U.S. families.

To the Church, there is no conflict between the common good and a person's God-given rights. For example, if a person is being persecuted and has no other recourse but to leave his or her country, that person has the right and the duty to leave; appeals to state sovereignty in these circumstances are misplaced because sovereignty is ultimately about locating state responsibility for furthering rights and the common good.

In short, a state can regulate all immigration and keep out those who do not truly need to enter. But those who are trying to support their families, fleeing persecution, and otherwise exercising their God-given rights should be admitted and welcomed.

**We hear a great deal about the negative economic impact of undocumented immigration, i.e. tax burden, social services, etc. How much truth is there to this view?**

When I hear that immigrants don't pay taxes, as I do quite often, I ask if the person making this claim has ever been in line at a convenience or grocery store and experienced the clerk waiving the sales tax for someone after being informed of his or her undocumented status. The truth is that everyone pays sales tax and the majority of undocumented immigrants pay income tax.

As of 2005, the Social Security Administration estimated that it had \$580 billion in a suspense fund, monies it could not attach to known social security numbers. This money is overwhelmingly from undocumented immigrants who will never derive any benefit from it.

About 10 years ago, the Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences issued a report stating undocumented immigrants and their

children will pay \$80,000 more in taxes over their lifetimes than they will receive in benefits. So the issue is not whether immigrants pay taxes. The real issue is that the majority of the tax revenues collected from this group goes to the federal government, but it is the states and localities that are left bearing the cost of education and healthcare. So while the federal government experiences a surplus, the state and local governments often experience a drain. The question is how to share these resources more equitably.

**Would you like to offer any final thoughts to our readers regarding immigration?**

We face a complex issue that calls for a global solution. The Church teaches first and foremost that people have a right to not have to migrate. This means addressing poverty, economic development and the rule of law across the globe and not simply approaching immigration as a domestic issue. However, we cannot ignore that there are real people caught in this reality in this moment. How do we deal with this in a way that reflects our religious and civic values?

At this point in our history, many seem to have a vision of the country that does not recognize the contribution of immigrants and views 12 million people as "illegal aliens." However, people cannot be illegal in our tradition anymore than a child can be illegitimate. We are all God's children and God is not a scofflaw. These dehumanizing labels prevent humane policies and facilitate scapegoating as "illegals" are blamed for everything from our healthcare and labor problems to rats in our public schools.

However, I do not believe that this vision can prevail. We are a better people than that. We are a people who recognize the God-given dignity of others, who see immigrants as real people not as abstractions, and who ultimately support humane immigration policies. We are not happy about families being separated and people dying needlessly. I am confident that at the end of the day we will enact policies that are befitting of our heritage and our values.





**PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE DECEASED PRIESTS  
DURING THE UPCOMING MONTHS.**

## OCTOBER

Most Rev. James J. Navagh, 1965  
Rev. Maurice Roche, C.M., 1994  
Msgr. William G. Wellein, 1997  
Rev. Paul G. Termer, 1970  
Msgr. Michael A. Carey, 1971  
Rev. Leo G. Doetterl, 1956  
Msgr. Christopher Dennen, 1939

Rev. John A. Walker, 1988  
Rev. Raymond J. Donohue, 1997  
Rev. Millard L. Neale, 1947  
Rev. Bernard J. Vincent, 1969  
Rev. Joseph McNamara, O.M.I., 1991  
Rev. John B. Murphy, 1938

## NOVEMBER

Rev. Thomas G. Roche, 1963  
Rev. Albert J. Todd, 1989  
Rev. Msgr. Frederick A. Koch, 1999  
Rev. George A. Woods, 1960

Msgr. John Manley, 1981  
Rev. John J. Hyland, 1975  
Rev. John A. Regan, 1976  
Rev. Stephen Sullivan, 1989

## DECEMBER

Msgr. Francis Smith, 1983  
Rev. Vincent M. Stokes, 1979  
Rev. James A. Cowan, 1968  
Most Rev. Vincent S. Waters, 1974  
Rev. Allen A. Jacobs, 1997  
Rev. Paul A. Murphy, 1948  
Rev. John B. McGuirk, 1979  
Rev. Francis A. Scheurich, 1975  
Rev. Francis A. McCarthy, 1962  
Rev. Ambrose Rohrbacher, 1969  
Rev. William E. Pearson, 1962

Msgr. Louis J. Bour, 1962  
Msgr. Peter J. McNerney, V.G., 1967  
Msgr. Herbert A. Harkins, 1962  
Most Rev. Charles B. McLaughlin, 1978  
Rev. Edward F. Rigney, 1959  
Rev. Thomas M. McAvoy, 1978  
Msgr. Francis J. Howard, 1971  
Rev. Maurice Spillane, 1992  
Most Rev. Eugene J. McGuinness, 1957  
Rev. John A. Weidinger, 1979

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE COUNCIL**

local news

## Catholic Charities hires new Fayetteville regional director

►► Lisa Perkins, MSW, LSW, has accepted the position of Fayetteville Regional Director for Catholic Charities, effective Nov. 4. Ms. Perkins comes to Catholic Charities with significant social service experience in Pittsburgh, P.A., and a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh. She has worked in case management, counseling and other direct services as well as in management and supervisory positions at Family Links, Big Brothers, Big Sisters and the Parental Stress Center.

## John 6:35 Retreat draws Diocesan youth

►► More than 600 youth from the Diocese of Raleigh attended the three-day John 6:35 Eucharistic Retreat Sept. 26 – 29 at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Wake Forest, N.C. The retreat has its roots in YOUTH 2000, which began as a result of Pope John Paul II's call at World Youth Day 1989 in Compostella, Spain, for a decade of evangelization of young people leading up to the New Millennium.



The first YOUTH 2000 prayer estival took place in 1990 in

*Live the life you love.*

When you're in control, opportunities abound. At Pennybyrn at Maryfield, you're free to create a lifestyle that's inspiring, stimulating and filled with exciting new opportunities — **in a new community bundled with years of credibility.** It's a casual, comfortable approach to healthy retirement living that celebrates who you are: *Fulfilled! Happy! Content!*

Visit us today, or call (336) 821-4050  
or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



**PENNYBYRN**

at MARYFIELD

A Retirement Living Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants  
of the Mother of God

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

109 Penny Road, High Point, NC 27260



MAG/NCC/10-08





Medjugorje, and included 7,000 young people from 24 countries. In 1992, YOUTH 2000 came to the U.S. through the efforts of some of the participants of the original prayer festival. The first retreat was held in Dallas, Tex., in June 1992 with 700 young people. The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal were among the preachers at the event. In 2005, the first YOUTH 2000 was held in Raleigh with over 600 participants. The following year the name was changed to JOHN 6:35 (for the Scripture verse "I Am the Bread of Life") and continues in the YOUTH 2000 format serving young people throughout North Carolina.

This year's retreat included liturgies, music, guest speakers and workshops, Eucharistic Adoration, the Rosary and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On Saturday evening, Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, heard confessions and celebrated the Vigil Mass.

In his homily Bishop Burbidge praised the work of Fr. Philip M. Tighe, Pastor of St. Catherine, in hosting the event. He then addressed the reason for the retreat: "Let's look at what you are doing during these special days. You have left the usual plans and activities of a weekend to spend time with the Lord. You have demonstrated the necessity that He must be the priority in your life. You will spend time with Him in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament... You will grow in your knowledge of our Catholic faith... You will celebrate the Sacrament of Penance so that you may be freed of any guilt or shame that may be weighing you down due to the burden of sin... You are expressing your renewed reverence for Jesus in the Eucharist."

"We pray," the Bishop said in his conclusion, "that with His divine assistance others will come to realize through the witness of our lives that the Eucharist is 'firmly believed and intensely lived.'"

## St. Bernadette, Butner, Celebrates 50th Anniversary

►► On Sun., Sept. 28, St. Bernadette Catholic Church in Butner, N.C., marked 50 years of ministry in southern Granville County. The church, formerly an army base chapel, was remodeled under the direction of the late Msgr. James Jones and dedicated by Bishop Vincent S. Waters in 1958. For the last seven years, the parish has been administered by Sister M. Carol Loughney, IHM, with Father J. Paul Byron providing priestly ministry.



The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, was principal celebrant and homilist at the bilingual anniversary Mass, which was concelebrated by Father Byron, former St. Bernadette pastor, Father James Butler, and Father Robert Benko, OFM, Conv., dean of the Piedmont Deanery. In his homily, Bishop Burbidge praised the parishioners, clergy and religious, both living and dead, for the dedication with which they had served Catholics in the area for a half century. He asked the members of the community to use the anniversary as a time of renewal and rededication to the faithful and compassionate outreach which has characterized the parish for so long.

# get ignited!

Come hear these great  
Catholic speakers

**Immaculée Ilibagiza**

**Tim Staples**

**Joseph Pearce**

**Ignited By Truth Catholic Conference**  
**February 13-14, 2009**  
**RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER**

*Bringing to light the truth of the teachings of the Catholic Church and igniting in our hearts a love for our Faith*

For complete details and online registration, visit:

**[www.IgnitedByTruth.com](http://www.IgnitedByTruth.com)**

## Prepare for Advent



**Broad selection  
of Advent  
calendars,  
wreaths and  
much more.**

**[www.stjudeshop.com](http://www.stjudeshop.com)**



**Call for Catalog**  
**1-800.523.7604**





Farmville, joining the Farmville Ministerial Association in interdenominational prayer services, serving as guest columnist in the local newspaper and more. She also volunteered time and labor to the local Benevolent Ministries and Meals on Wheels.

When Sister left Farmville in 2005, Father Joseph J. Yeager became St. Elizabeth's first

**T**he first Catholic Church in Farmville, N.C., was a railroad car. The St. Peter, built in 1912 for the Catholic Church Extension Society, brought Mass to missions across the country until the 1930s. In the 20s, it was manned by the legendary Father Egbert Albert, C.P.

In Farmville, most of the Catholics were Lebanese merchants. When Fr. Albert died in 1929, this small group of Catholics began worshipping in the home of Wadir Hatem, who converted his dining room into a chapel. Father Michael Begley, later the first Bishop of Charlotte, would come each Sunday from the orphanage in Raleigh to celebrate Mass.

By 1931, though, a permanent church, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, had been built and was dedicated by Bishop William Hafey. It was many years before St. Elizabeth had a resident pastor, but throughout the years many priests, both Diocesan and religious, served the parish.

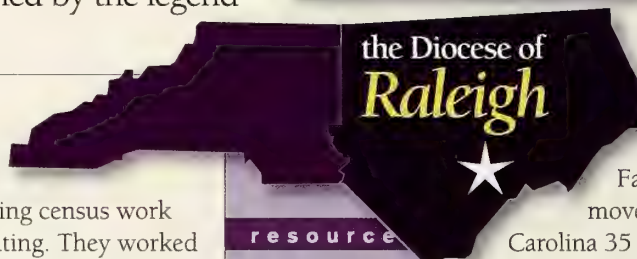
For a short time, the Church of St. Jude, Grifton, was a mission of the Farmville church. St. Elizabeth also served as a catechetical center for Eastern Carolina. From 1958-70, Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart Sisters were stationed in

Farmville, teaching religion classes and doing census work and parish visiting. They worked extensively with lay volunteers known as "Mary Missioners," who joined the Sisters in providing religious instruction in Farmville, Mount Olive, Jacksonville, Holly Ridge, Scotland Neck, Grifton, Tarboro, Roanoke Rapids, Smithfield, Newton Grove, Edenton, Plymouth and Ahoskie.

In 1993 Sister Grace Campbell, IHM, was appointed Pastoral Administrator of St. Elizabeth. At the same time, Passionist priests from Greenville were assigned the duties of Canonical Pastor provided priestly ministry, thus returning the sacramental care of the people of Farmville to the Order which had begun the ministry in the days of the railway car. Sister Grace served St. Elizabeth parish devotedly for 12 years, and was active in the community of

## A Little Parish With a Big Heart

### St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Farmville



#### resource

**St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Farmville, NC**

3455 South Contentnea Street,  
Farmville, NC 27828

resident priest in 18 years. A native of New York, Father Yeager moved to North

Carolina 35 years ago with his family and is an alumnus of East Carolina University. While he praises the "peacefulness" to be found in a small agricultural town like Farmville, he acknowledges that the entire community is experiencing tremendous growth. "Our most pressing need as a parish," he says, "is space." The church seats 80 people "if they're friendly," Father Yeager says. But the church property has room for expansion, and the parish is in the early stages of planning to fund and build a "gathering hall" with classrooms for the Sunday school.

The official church history describes St. Elizabeth as "a little parish with a big heart" filled with enthusiasm for the future: "Our journey of faith continues! St. Elizabeth, pray for us!"



## things to do:

### **Priesthood Discernment Group**

9 a.m. - noon, Nov. 15, at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 219 Edenton St., Raleigh, N.C. Adult Catholic men between the ages of 17-48 discerning a possible call to priesthood are invited to the Priesthood Discernment Group meetings held on the third Saturday of each month. If you are just beginning to contemplate a vocation or are more serious about a call to priesthood please consider attending this group. The priesthood Discernment Group provides a fraternal environment in which to discuss your discernment of a possible call to priesthood with other men who are also examining the call. The group discusses issues central to the call and does so within the context of prayer, presentations, and discussion. The morning begins with Mass. Coffee and doughnuts will be available in the Office of Vocations (two doors down from the Cathedral) after Mass. Morning Prayer, a discussion/presentation about discernment/priesthood, Daytime Prayer and lunch follow. For more information contact the Vocations Office, 919.832.6279.

### **African Ancestry Ambassador of the Word Vocation & Spirituality Retreat, 8 p.m. Oct. 24 - noon, Oct. 26 at Trinity Center, W. Ford Macon Rd., Salter Path, N.C.**

Retreat Theme: "God is My Pilot." The retreat will focus on vocation and lay leadership. Youth will participate in prayer and various faith building exercises during the day. Mass will be celebrated on Sunday morning with Father Ned Shlesinger, diocesan director of vocation and seminary formation. For more information call 919.821.9762.

**Faith Trax, Oct. 25 at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 2840 Village Dr., Fayetteville, N.C.,** is a brand new event for middle school youth. Participants will learn more about their faith and explore ways to **LEARN IT, LIVE IT and LOVE IT!** There will be large group activities and also tracks of sessions for sixth, seventh and eighth graders, as well as two tracks for adults, parents and chaperones (English and Spanish) to deepen their own faith and to discover ways to help foster faith in early adolescents. The FaithTrax Day will include meaningful service

projects, cool prayer experiences and games to help youth learn more about their faith. Cost: \$30 for first member of family/\$25 additional members.

**Catholic Charities Sunday, Oct. 26,** a celebration in all parishes thanking parishioners for their support of Catholic Charities' mission and sharing information about the agency. For more information contact Patricia Reid at 919.821.8146 or patricia.reid@raldioc.org.

**RELM Gathering, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Oct. 29,** at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. The annual fall gathering of the Raleigh Ecclesial Lay Ministers association explores aspects of the Changing Face of Ministry.

**Catholics and the Environment,** a three-week online seminar from Catholic Distance University, runs Nov. 3 - 24. Participants will learn an overview of Catholic teaching about creation, and the importance of that teaching for current environmental questions such as global warming, the world economy and the unique status of human beings in nature. Instructor: Dr. Robert Royal. Cost: \$139. Register online at <http://www.cdu.edu> or by phone at 888.254.4CDU. Registration deadline: Oct. 29.

The annual **Catholic Campaign for Human Development and John J. Carey Awards banquet** will be held 6:30 - 9 p.m., Oct. 30, at St. Michael the Archangel Parish Center, 804 High House Rd., Cary, N.C. Local CCHD awards will be distributed. The Catholic Charities John J. Carey award, given to a leader in diocesan social ministry, will be honored. All are welcome.

**Search for Christian Maturity #152, Nov. 14-16** at Short Journey Center, 2323 Cleveland Rd., Smithfield, N.C. Search is a weekend retreat for 11th - 12th-grade youth. Activities encourage self-discovery and reflection on relationships with others and with God. This is a peer-led retreat as the search "team" is made up of other teens. These past searchers model leadership, faith sharing and ministry with their peers. Adults in youth ministry also attend and participate in Search. Searches usually fill up quickly, so sign-up for the earliest date possible to

## Upcoming events at Avila Retreat Center

711 Mason Road, Durham 27712. To register or for more information, call 919.477.1285.



### **►► The Rosary: A Treasure to Be Rediscovered, Nov. 11, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

*"Dear brothers and sisters! A prayer so easy and yet so rich truly deserves to be rediscovered by the Christian Community." ~ Pope John Paul II.*

Sister Carol invites you to spend a retreat day focusing on the renewal of this Christ-centered prayer by reviewing the Mysteries of the Rosary, introducing the additional Luminous Mysteries. Participants will pray the Scriptural Rosary together. Presenter: Sister Carol Ann May, OP, Assistant Director, Avila Retreat Center is a member of the Dominican Congregation at Elkins Park, Pa. Sister "Cam" has ministered as a musician liturgist centered along the eastern coast. Sister has extensive background in music, dance and religious studies. Donation: \$30

ensure yourself a space. Cost: \$105 youth/adults. Additional dates: Dec. 12-14, 2008; Feb. 6 - 8, 2009; March 20-22, 2009. Contact Mike Hagarty at 919.821.9770 or Hagarty@raldioc.org.

### **Formación Diocesana para Líderes en Pastoral Juvenil, 11/15 9 a - 11/15 4 p.**

Propósito / Purpose: Ofrecer la formación básica requerida para los líderes existentes o para los que deseen ser líderes. Deberán tener la recomendación del párroco. To offer the Basic formation needed for those who currently are leaders or want to be a leader recommended by the pastor. Participantes / Participants: Líderes o supervisores adultos, 18 años en adelante. Leaders or adults supervisors, 18 years and older. Costo por parroquia / Fee by the parish: \$15/persona por cada sábado. \$15.00 / person for each Saturday. Tamaño de la clase / Class size: El número máximo de participantes para cada sábado es 30. Se requiere inscripción para cada sábado que asista. Maximum number of participants for each Saturday is 30. Registration required for each Saturday class.

**A Celebration of Lay Ministry, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Nov. 15,** at St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church, 5801 Falls of Neuse Road, Raleigh, N.C. All lay ministers in the Diocese of Raleigh are invited to join with Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for Mass to celebrate the gift of lay ministry and mark significant anniversaries of service. Mass will be followed by lunch and a presentation by our Bishop on the state of lay

ministry in the Diocese. Advance registration is required. For registration information please contact Bea Gallery in the Office for Lay Ministry, 919.821.9715. There will be a charge for lunch.

**St. Martin de Porres Mass, 5 p.m., Nov. 15,** at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 624 South Peartree Lane, Raleigh, N.C. Celebrant: Bishop Michael F. Burbidge. Contact Msgr. Hadden for information, 919.821.9762.

**Scriptural Themes of Advent,** a three-week online seminar from Catholic Distance University, runs Nov. 24 - Dec. 15. Participants will prepare for Christmas by examining the reading from the prophet Isaiah and the Gospels which tell us about redemption. Instructor: Fr. Bevil Bramwell, OMI. Cost: \$139. Register online at <http://www.cdu.edu> or by phone at 1-888-254-4CDU. Registration deadline: Nov. 19.

**Vocations Prayer Group for Women, 7 - 9 p.m., Nov. 20,** at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 219 Edenton St., Raleigh, N.C. Single Catholic women between the ages of 17-45 who are committed to praying for vocations, growing in holiness while in the midst of the world and discerning the call of Christ are invited to the Vocations Prayer Group for Women. Thursday evening meetings will begin in Sacred Heart Cathedral with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7 p.m. followed by Benediction. At 8 p.m. the group will move to the Office of Vocations for fellowship and discussions. Meetings should end by 9 p.m.. Contact Fr. Ned Shlesinger, [vocations@raldioc.org](mailto:vocations@raldioc.org).



## Office of Vocations Issues New Poster

► In late September, the Office of Vocations mailed the 2008-2009 Diocesan Seminarians vocation poster to Parish Vocation Liaisons in parishes, missions and schools of the Diocese. This year's poster, entitled "In the Footsteps of the Tarheel Apostles," highlights not only the 16 men in formation for the Priesthood in the Diocese of Raleigh, but also the men in whose footsteps they follow, men who followed in the footsteps of Christ, embracing rejection and never counting the cost. Most prominent on the poster is the Servant of God, Father Thomas Frederick Price, as a young seminarian for what was then the Apostolic Vicariate of North Carolina. Father Price was the first native North Carolinian ordained to the Priesthood and later became widely known as "The Tarheel Apostle" for his extraordinary missionary zeal. The handwritten text making up the background of the poster is from an actual letter Father Price wrote to Bishop Haid, O.S.B., the third Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina, reporting his missionary activities in Eastern North Carolina and mentioning his correspondence with St. Katharine Drexel and her spiritual and financial support of several parishes and schools in the State.

Also featured on the poster is the Apostolic succession of Bishops who have shepherded Catholics in Eastern North Carolina, from Cardinal Gibbons, the First Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina, to Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, the Fifth and current Bishop of Raleigh. Among the Bishops is a photo of a young Father Mark Gross, one of the first resident priests in Eastern North Carolina. Father Gross was personally responsible for bringing hundreds of people to the faith, and nurturing the faith and vocation of an even younger Thomas Frederick Price.

In the lower left of the poster is a group photo of the seminarians of the Diocese in 1953. The photo highlights not only the men whom today's seminarians follow, but two prominent African American priests from the Diocese. Msgr. Thomas Hadden was the first black seminarian to attend the North American College in Rome and was the first African American ordained in Rome for the

## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE TARHEEL APOSTLES



Priesthood in North Carolina in 1958. The following year, Bishop Joseph Lawson Howze was the second African American ordained to the Priesthood in the Diocese of Raleigh and later became the second black priest ordained as a Bishop in the United States.

The Office of Vocations hopes the new poster will serve not only as a tool to promote more vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood, but also as an aid to begin teaching the rich history of Religious, Priests and Bishops serving Catholics in the State of North Carolina and the Diocese of Raleigh dating back to the early 1800's.

Also available upon request is a poster version of a vocations ad

that recently ran on the back of the *NC Catholics* magazine. The "No One is Born a Priest" ad features a young boy from St. Peter's Church in Greenville, NC. The photo used in the ad was actually taken by his mother and serves to highlight the words of Pope Benedict XVI on the poster to the effect that religious or priestly vocations are a matter that should be explored and encouraged in families today.

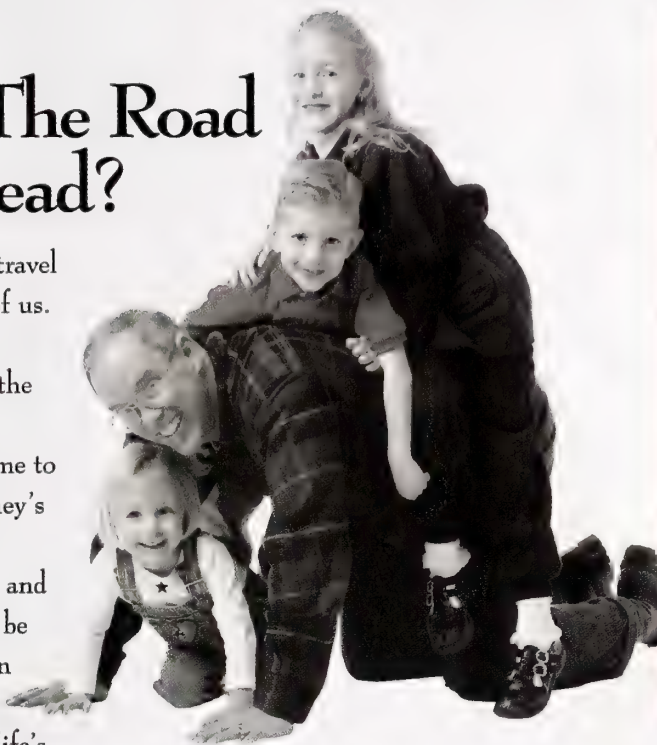
Additionally, new vocations prayer cards with the names and pictures of Raleigh's Seminarians will be distributed throughout the Diocese via Parish Vocations Liaisons. These too will be available upon request from the Office of Vocations.



# What's The Road Like Ahead?

The road we have to travel is different for each of us. The only certainty is that we all must end the journey some day.

If you take the time to prepare for that journey's end now, your family, favorite parish, school and diocesan ministry will be supported. A will is an essential part of that overall plan for your life's journey.



I want to know more!  
Please send me the booklet  
Better Estate Planning.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ am / pm  
Best time to contact \_\_\_\_\_

## Diocese of Raleigh

To receive the free booklet "Better Estate Planning" contact: Office of Stewardship & Development  
Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606, email: [rossi@raldioc.org](mailto:rossi@raldioc.org), or call 919-821-9721  
Visit our web site: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

**St. Raphael the Archangel**  
**5801 Falls of Neuse Road**  
**Raleigh, NC**

**10:00 a.m. Anniversary Mass**  
**11:00 a.m. Lunch**  
**12:00 p.m. Conversation with**  
**Bishop Burbidge**

## A CELEBRATION OF LAY MINISTRY Anniversary Mass

**The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge Presiding**

LEMA (the Diocesan Lay Ecclesial Ministers' Association) invites you to a day of celebration and conversation centered on the gift and call of lay ministry in the Diocese of Raleigh. Mass with the Bishop will include recognition of those celebrating retirement or significant anniversaries of 10 years or more as lay ecclesial ministers. Significant anniversaries are those falling in 5 year increments—10, 15, 20, 25 . . .

No Charge for LEMA Members and Honorees—\$10 for Non-members

**PLEASE RSVP BY NOVEMBER 5TH**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check applicable boxes below:

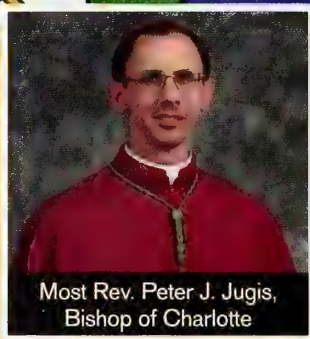
- ☐ LEMA Member, \$0 enclosed ☐ New or renewed LEMA Membership, \$20 enclosed  
☐ Non-LEMA Member, \$10 enclosed ☐ I am celebrating \_\_\_\_\_ years of lay ministry in 2008, please contact me.

**Return form & payment to: Office for Lay Ministry, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606**



# CATHOLIC VOICE NC

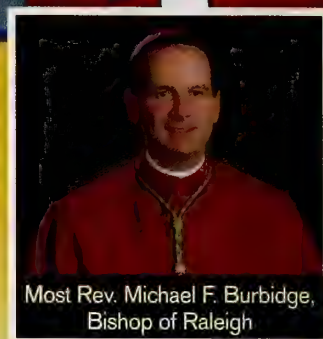
*The nonpartisan voice of North Carolina's Bishops*



Most Rev. Peter J. Jugis,  
Bishop of Charlotte

**Are you interested in shaping the  
laws that affect your family and you?**

## CATHOLIC VOICE NC



Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge,  
Bishop of Raleigh

**Catholic Voice NC** is a non-partisan public policy project established by the two Catholic Bishops of North Carolina to enable Catholic citizens to participate more effectively in political and public life.

If you would like your voice to be heard by legislators who are considering bills that would affect respect life issues, end of life issues, marriage and family life, stem cell research, and immigration, please consider registering at

**[www.CatholicVoiceNC.org](http://www.CatholicVoiceNC.org)**

October 2008



**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



please recycle



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514

35737

P 12 1205

SERIALS DEPARTMENT

34165

CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY

CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholics

November 2008

\$2.00

[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)

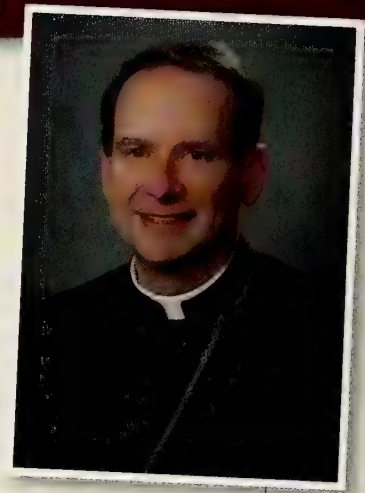


## The Finger of God Touched Here

THE REMARKABLE BIRTH OF CATHOLICISM IN NEWTON GROVE, N.C.



**O**ur Diocesan magazine this month highlights the rich history of Newton Grove, N.C., in particular as it relates to the growth of Catholicism. We are reminded that in 1910 Saint Katharine Drexel, founder of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and canonized a saint in 2000, visited Newton Grove. She was a benefactor of the Church and expressed her great support for the African-American community and their spiritual needs. I have a great devotion to this saint. She was born in the city of my birthplace, and she is a saint who assisted and visited the Diocese in which I am now so privileged to serve as Bishop.



At the end of this month, the Church will begin the celebration of the Season of Advent. I believe the example of Saint Katharine Drexel teaches us how to have hearts ready and prepared to receive the abundant graces of this Sacred Season.

Both miracles attributed to Katharine Drexel in the canonization process were cures of deafness. In our busy and noisy world, we spend less and less time listening. The Season of Advent is a special invitation to draw ever closer to Jesus Christ, especially as He reveals Himself to us in His Word. At times, we can be deaf to the countless ways He speaks to our hearts and guides us on our path. Especially throughout

Advent, I encourage you to meditate carefully and in a planned and deliberate way on the Word of God. Make time on a daily basis to be still, to pray and to "listen" to Him.

The Eucharist, as the Sacrament of Hope, was the focus of the life of Saint Katharine Drexel. Like all of us, she faced many obstacles and challenges in her life and ministry.

## Saint Katharine Drexel

### An Example for Advent

Yet, she consistently taught that the Eucharist is our only hope, for it makes us one with Christ, who was victorious over all evil, frustration, anxiety, sin and death itself. So that you might celebrate and experience the Lord's peace throughout the Season of Advent, I encourage you to entrust your cares to Him and to find the source of your strength in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Saint Katharine Drexel worked diligently for the unity of all people and courageously sought to eradicate all forms of prejudice, racism and injustice. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, who unites us as brothers and sisters, we must let go of any bitterness or hatred within our hearts. This Sacred Season invites us to restore all relationships and friendships that have been broken and to forgive one another. Only when we are at peace with one another can we celebrate fully the peace of Christ. I also encourage you in your spiritual preparation for Christmas to celebrate the Lord's forgiveness and the newness of life He brings to us in the Sacrament of Penance.

Evangelization of African-Americans, Native Americans and all people, especially the poor, was at the heart of the ministry of Saint Katharine Drexel. She was truly a missionary who went to the corners of the Earth inviting others to embrace the Lord Jesus and His Church. With generosity, in this Sacred Season especially, find ways to share your resources with the most needy in our midst. With love, gently invite family members, friends, co-workers and peers who may have abandoned faith to return to the Lord this Christmas. Saint Katharine Drexel, in a letter she wrote to her sisters on Christmas Day, reminds us of the influence we can and ought to have on others:

"Reflect on the infant Jesus and how tiny were His feet. We do not have to do anything too great in our lives; just follow in those tiny footsteps. Then, let God do the rest and He will transform those tiny footsteps of ours into giant strides which will help us carry the Peace, the Hope, the Love and the Joy which is Jesus Christ to all those we meet."

In the Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent, Jesus tells us "to be watchful" and "to be alert." We will respond to that call if we seek God's grace and follow the example of Saint Katharine Drexel. We ask for her intercession so that we may carry the Peace, the Hope, the Love and the Joy of Jesus Christ to all those we meet!

— Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh



# inside

what you'll get  
out of this issue

## from the Bishop

**2** Saint Katharine Drexel: An Example  
for Advent – Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

## since you asked ...

**8** How do we respond to the  
evil around us?  
– Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk

## from the editor

**9** Newton Grove: Another Story Line  
– Rich Reece

## theology 101

**10** God's loving revelation  
– Sr. Maria Faustina Showalter, O.P., Sr. John Mary  
Corbett, O.P., Sr. Maria Gemma Martek, O.P., and Sr.  
Elizabeth Ann O'Reilly, O.P.

## saint of the month

**12** St. Andrew the Apostle

## voices in our church

**13** Could You Teach Your Faith?  
– Msgr. Thomas Hadden

**13** ¿Celebramos la muerte o la vida?  
– Padre Fernando Torres

## your marriage matters

**22** He says: I want to go fishing with the  
guys She says: I want a family vacation  
– Tom and JoAnne Fogle

## parenting journey

**22** Come a little closer  
– Dr. Cathleen McGreal

## spiritual fitness

**22** Don't be afraid of the dark  
Seeing the light of Christ  
– Father Bill Ashbaugh

## parish profile

**28** People find a home here  
St. Bernadette, Butner  
– Rich Reece

## cover story

### "The Finger of God Touched Here"

►► At the beginning of 1871, no one in the rural east Carolina town of Newton Grove was Catholic. In the next two decades, more than 300 men, women and children, many of them one-time haters of Catholics, had joined the Church.

# 14

## el hispano Católico

### 18 el hispano Católico

►► La presencia de Dios descendió en este lugar  
Impresionante nacimiento del catolicismo en Newton Grove, Carolina del Norte

– Rich Reece

### 20 Querido lector de NCC

►► Dear NCC: ¿Respondemos a la maldad a nuestro alrededor?

– El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

### 21 Obispo Burbidge

►► Santa Katharine Drexel: Un ejemplo a seguir para la temporada de Adviento

– Obispo Michael F. Burbidge



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

November 2008 • Vol. 4 : Issue 9

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Amanda Cadran  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Dana Lorelle  
Father Tad Pacholczyk  
Father Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

Denmark Photo and Video (cover)  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vicki Bedard  
DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING

Jillane Job  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR

Lynne Ridenour  
GRAPHIC DESIGNER/WEB MASTER

Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Betsy Miner  
PROOFREADING

Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
Tim Ryan  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tom Gennara  
Phillip Shippert  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and June. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™ Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730

## Red, White Masses Draw Catholics From Law, Healthcare

▶▶ Diocesan faithful in the legal and healthcare professions participated in two special Masses celebrated recently in the Diocese. Initiated by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, the Red Mass is celebrated annually for all judges, prosecutors, attorneys, law school professors, students and government officials.

Planning for the Red Mass, celebrated Oct. 17 at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Raleigh, was led by Judge James C. Dever III, a United States District Judge based in Raleigh and a parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes.

"The Red Mass is an important initiative to offer on behalf of the legal profession," Dever said. He stated that in his profession, it is important for public officials to have the opportunity to attend as private individuals.

In his homily at the Red Mass, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge noted, "It is providential that the Red Mass is celebrated in the same month the Church celebrates Respect Life Month. We are clearly reminded that of all the issues facing our country, the most critical (and the one from which all others derive their meaning) is the reverence for and the defense of all human life, especially the unborn, the dying, the poor, the prisoner, the immigrant, the weak, the vulnerable and all those not protected by the law... You must always bring to the debates of the issues at hand our fundamental belief and conviction that all life is from God; that all life is sacred, and all persons, without exception, must be treated with dignity and respect."



Mass," Dr. Cervi said. "My wife, who is also in the medical field, also assisted." Dr. Cervi gave one of the readings at the Mass, and two of his children participated as altar servers. He says this Mass is especially important to him as a physician: "In my profession, death is something I have to deal with, and I need to rely on my faith and the faith of my patients to get through those difficult times when medicine can be of no help. Spiritual and medical healing go hand in hand."

At this Mass, Bishop Burbidge renewed his emphasis on the sanctity of life. "We believe," the Bishop said, "that the Lord our God is the Creator and Author of all life. We believe in the sacredness of all human life from the moment of conception to natural death. We believe that all persons are created in the image and likeness of God and are temples of the Holy Spirit... In a world that does not always embrace these truths, how essential it is that you profess your faith in word and deed each day."

The White Mass is the first in the Diocese, and in the future it will be held in other cities in the Diocese with major medical centers. — Amanda Cadran



The White Mass, held on October 22nd at St. Peter Catholic Church in Greenville, was offered for those who work in the medical profession and anyone who cares for the sick and injured. Dr. Mark Cervi, a practitioner of internal medicine at Pitt County Memorial Hospital, led the planning.

"Late last spring at a Pastoral Council meeting, I was asked to coordinate the organization of the



## Mass Celebrates Hispanic Heritage

►► Men, women and children from more than 20 Latin American countries gathered Oct. 11 at St. Ann Catholic Church in Clayton for the annual Hispanic Heritage Mass. The theme for this year's celebration was "Strangers or Aliens No Longer ... You Are the Family of God." Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge presided at the annual Mass



that recognizes and pays tribute to the many gifts Hispanic immigrants bring to our Church and our communities. The celebration highlights the rich faith of the Hispanic people, their strong family values and their dedication to work.

The homily was given by Father Carlos Arce, Diocesan Vicar

for Hispanics. He spoke of the challenges faced by many immigrants who have come to the U.S., seeking a better life for themselves and their loved ones. "We have come to this country surpassing a great many obstacles, and we are here because of God's Grace. Always remember that we should live as children of God."

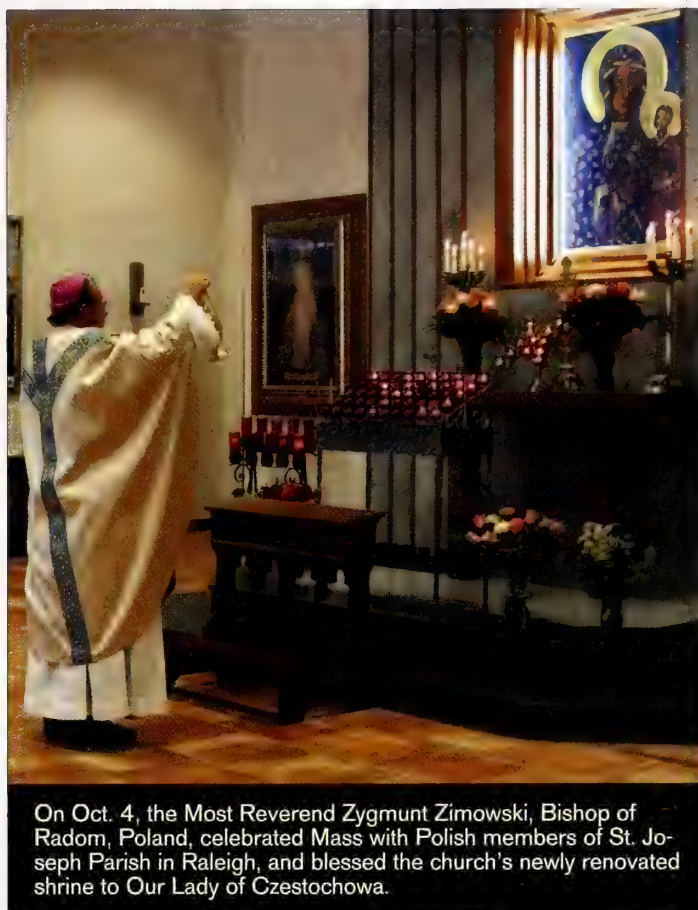
## Bishop Marks Respect Life Sunday with Mass and Homily in Goldsboro

►► Catholic Churches throughout the U.S. celebrated Respect Life Sunday on Oct. 5. The day commemorates the sanctity of life and reminds Catholics of the need to work on behalf of all life issues, ranging from abortion to immigration.

Each year, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge celebrates Respect Life Sunday at one of the Diocese's 96 parish and mission churches. This year, the Bishop celebrated Mass at St. Mary Church in Goldsboro.

In his homily, Bishop Burbidge spoke of the work that remains to be done "in the defending and protecting of the sacredness of all human life, the life of the unborn, the prisoner, the immigrant, the dying, the weak, the vulnerable and all those who are unable to protect themselves."

The Bishop noted our civic responsibility to become involved in the important moral issues of our time. "We are presented," the Bishop said, "with opportunities each and every day to stand up for life in the words we speak, by our outreach to those in need and by the decisions we make."



On Oct. 4, the Most Reverend Zygmunt Zimowski, Bishop of Radom, Poland, celebrated Mass with Polish members of St. Joseph Parish in Raleigh, and blessed the church's newly renovated shrine to Our Lady of Czestochowa.

## Official Announcements

►► The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following Pastoral appointments: Reverend Paul M. Parkerson, Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Dunn, is additionally appointed to a three-year term as the Bishop's delegate for the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy in the *Forma Extraordinaria*. Reverend Julian C. Jagudilla, O.F.M., Franciscan Friar, Holy Name Province of the Order of Friars Minor, is appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish in Raleigh. Reverend Edward R. Wolanski, C.P., a member of the Congregation of the Passionists and former Pastor of Our Lady of the Isle in Shelter Island, N.Y., is appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Peter Parish in Greenville.

## "General Norms" Go Into Effect

►► The General Norms for the Celebration of the Sacred Liturgy became effective Oct. 19. The new Norms were promulgated by Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge Aug. 4. A series of workshops was held in the Diocese to familiarize parish staffs with the Norms and bulletin inserts were provided to inform the faithful about the changes. The Norms are available in pdf form on the Diocesan Web site at <http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/docs/liturgy/General-NormsMass.pdf>.





2008 YEAR OF ST. PAUL

## Celebrate St. Paul

**E**ach month, *NC Catholics* will report on various initiatives and activities throughout the Diocese to incorporate the Jubilee Year of St. Paul into the spiritual formation of the faithful. Watch this space! If you know of Pauline events occurring, send information and or pictures to *NC Catholics* by emailing [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).

**Back to Earth** – More than 350 students participated in “Back to Earth,” the Diocesan wide camp-out for youth in grades 9-12. The weekend event was held in October at Short Journey Center in Smithfield.

This fall's theme was “Come to the Feast” and featured as keynoter Paul Kotlowski, the youth ministry coordinator in the Diocese of Charlotte. His talk was on the Year of St. Paul. This year's breakout sessions included “Road to Damascus: Conversations of Paul.”

**Plenary Indulgence** – Catholics who participate in events connected with the 2008-2009 jubilee year of St. Paul can receive a special indulgence. Pope Benedict XVI authorized the granting of a plenary, or full, indulgence in order to highlight the Pauline year and open the way to the “interior purification” of the faithful during its celebration.

An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment a person is due for sins that have been forgiven. The plenary indulgence is being offered to pilgrims who come to Rome, to Catholics who participate in local events connected to the jubilee year, and to those who may be too ill or otherwise prevented from physical participation. It can be granted on behalf of the individual petitioner or on behalf of departed souls.

Conditions for the special Pauline year indulgence include the normal requirements set by the Church for all plenary indulgences: that the person goes to confession, receives the Eucharist and prays for the intentions of the Holy Father.

**Emmaus Conference** – Dr. Paul Griffiths, the Warren Professor of Catholic Theology at Duke University, spoke on St. Paul the Evangelist at the annual Emmaus Conference for catechists, held this year at St. Paul Church in New Bern. A podcast of Dr. Griffiths' presentation is available at the Diocesan Web site. Click on the Year of St. Paul on the home page and follow the links.

**Resource** – Asked to recommend a book on St. Paul, Dr. Griffiths cited *Life in Christ: The Spiritual Message of the Letter to the Romans*, by Father Raniero Cantalamessa. Amazon.com says this about the book: “In *Life in Christ*, Father Raniero Cantalamessa, preacher to the papal household, presents a project of re-evangelization and spiritual renewal based on St. Paul's Letter to the Romans. It is therefore neither an exegetical commentary nor a theological treatise, but goes straight to the heart of what animated the Apostle when he wrote this letter. His aim was not to give the Christians of Rome — and the Christians of later generations — a difficult text on which to exercise their critical wisdom but rather to impart a spiritual gift to them so that they would be strengthened and mutually encouraged by each other's faith.”

**Podcast** – To subscribe to podcasts on St. Paul by Father Jonathan Woodhall, Father James Labosky and others, go to <http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/catechesis/stpaul/ipaul.aspx>.

## Parish Catechists Attend Annual Emmaus Conference

►► The Diocese of Raleigh's Eight Annual Emmaus Conference was held at St. Paul Catholic Church in New Bern on Oct. 16-17. The gathering, hosted by the Diocesan Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, is for men and women involved in religious faith formation on the parish level.

The two-day event featured a pair of keynote talks. Father Timothy Radcliffe, OP, spoke on the



Father Timothy Radcliffe, OP, Keynote Speaker

topic of “Listening to the Word of God” and “Sharing the Word of God.” Fr. Brian Pierce, OP, spoke on “The Spaces Between the Words- Discovering the Word in Daily Life.” Fr. Pierce also presented his talk in Spanish.

Participants had the opportunity to choose from seven English language workshops and two Spanish language sessions. Paul Griffiths, PhD, the Warren Professor of Catholic Theology at Duke University, was one of the presenters, speaking on St. Paul the Evangelist.

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge was principal celebrant and homilist for the Conference Mass. He expressed his gratitude to those gathered for their dedication and generous service in bringing the Word of God to those they serve in their parish communities. The Bishop



Mary Hood Hart, 2008 Master Catechist of the Year

spoke about the obstacles they face as well as the many blessings they receive. “We live in a world where there is great moral confusion,” the Bishop said. “In the midst of these obstacles we are called

upon to persevere; to remain patient and to be ever confident in God's ability to ‘break through’ any obstacle we may encounter. He will give us the resources



and graces we need."

Each year during the conference, the Mary Dowling Master Catechist of the Year Award is presented. This year's recipient is Mary Hood Hart, director of faith formation for St. Brendan Church in Shallotte. Hart has been in her position since 2000 after volunteering as a catechist for 20 years in the Dioceses of Raleigh and Charleston.

## Thanksgiving Basket Project Marks 25 Years

►► The annual Thanksgiving Basket Project, sponsored by St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, is celebrating 25 years of giving. Each year, the project assists 500-600 families, or 2,000-3,000 people, by providing baskets of Thanksgiving food items as well as other non-



holiday staple items to those in need.

Starting in early November, several groups from within the parish community – including Faith Formation classes, St. Michael School, the Early Childhood Center, The Edge (Middle School Program) and others – began the project by collecting food and decorating the baskets. Monetary donations are welcomed any time at the parish office, and food donations are welcomed at any of the Masses held on Nov. 22 and 23 before 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23. A list of food items needed for each basket is available at [www.stmichaelscary.org](http://www.stmichaelscary.org) or by contacting the parish office at 919.468.6100. Monetary donations are used to purchase the food needed to complete the assembly of the baskets.

The St. Michael community gathers every year for the massive job of assembling and distributing these baskets to families and individuals in need of assistance. These baskets, or large boxes, will be assembled on Sunday, Nov. 23 by volunteers like the church's high school students group, the Knights of Columbus and the Boy

Scouts. They are joined by the many parishioners who volunteer with their friends and families, including their children.

Recipients of the Thanksgiving baskets are identified by referrals from ministries at St. Michael, local social service agencies, area school counselors and fellow churches throughout Wake County. After the box assembly, any food items not on our list are given to Meals On Wheels and the Interfaith Food Shuttle to distribute to food pantries and others in need in the local area.

John and Jackie Brown began the program out of their van 25 years ago. They received food and monetary donations and then distributed food and set-up accounts to benefit those in need. And while they are still active in the St. Michael's program today, they are also busy introducing this same type of program to other churches in North Carolina as far away as Wilmington. "We have been truly blessed by the St. Michael parish family and all those who have helped along the way. We want this to continue, even when we're gone, through our children and grandchildren, and spread through other churches as well so that people will not be hungry," say the Browns.

For information on how to donate or volunteer for St. Michael's 25th Annual Thanksgiving Basket Project: 919.468.6100.

# Prepare for Advent



**Broad selection  
of Advent  
calendars,  
wreaths and  
much more.**

[www.stjudeshop.com](http://www.stjudeshop.com)



**Call for Catalog  
1-800.523.7604**



## Dear NCC: How do we respond to the evil around us?

When I traveled to Auschwitz a few years ago, one question played over and over in my mind: Did they know? Did the German people know what was happening in this camp near their own border, in their own occupied territories? With the trains coming and going year after year, with the long lines of prisoners and the billowing smokestacks, did they just turn a blind eye to the atrocities? Had they become desensitized to the point that they could no longer see the carefully choreographed death operations nearby?



— Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)

Some concentration camps, like the one in Dachau, were set in comfortable suburbs right inside Germany itself, and the townsfolk could stroll past them during their daily routine. The grass in those suburbs continued to grow as green as anywhere else, young people got married, babies were born, men went to work and life went on.

Walking through a place like Dachau or Auschwitz, one wonders: Could it ever happen again? Could a similar scenario play out today in middle-class America? Most would instinctively say “no” — after all, we live in a more enlightened time and culture. A more perceptive eye, however, can discern troubling parallels. Nowhere are these parallels more evident than in the bioethical issues of our day. Our society, in fact, faces virtually the same temptation that Germany did: the temptation to normalize certain well-scripted death operations in the midst of polite society.

If we look within our own culture and within our own time, we will see that suction machines have replaced smokestacks, and that Fertility Clinics and Women’s Health Centers have replaced the barbed wire. Unborn humans and embryonic children are now dispatched with the same desensitized ease as camp inhabitants once were, and ne’er a word is mentioned in respectable society. Our great universities, which need to serve as a moral voice, remain mute or even foster such evil, as does the press, and few dare mention the pall of death that quietly permeates the air.

We need look no further than the Planned Parenthood clinics which are dotted across our

## Dear NCC

This month with  
Father Tad Pacholczyk

country. Future generations are likely to be appalled by the statistics: nearly two million deaths per year. They are sure to wonder about a people that ended the lives of their own children at the rate of one every 23 seconds through elective abortion. They are sure to ask, “How could they?” and, “Did they know?”

We need look no further than the fertility clinics present in every major American city. Future generations are sure to be scandalized by the numbers: *In vitro* fertilization making hundreds of thousands of embryonic humans, to be chilled in liquid nitrogen and turned into, in the words of one commentator, “kidsicles.” They are sure to deplore the many other human embryos treated as objects, discarded as medical waste, poured down the sink or experimented upon and strip-mined for their embryonic stem cells.

There is a certain banality about evil. It doesn’t necessarily present itself in a monstrous or dramatic way. It can take the shape of simple conformity to what everyone else is doing, to what the leadership says is right, to what the neighbors are doing. The gradual encroachment of evil in our lives can be something we might not even notice because we are not paying attention; it can be something barely on the periphery of our consciousness.

The majority of those who collaborated with some of history’s most terrible crimes and falsehoods need not be cast as inhuman monsters; instead, they were often like us. They were capable of giving and receiving sympathy and love; they could have beautiful feelings and noble ideals; heroism, loyalty, family and culture could all co-exist with almost unbelievable evil.

During the Nazi years, there often were no momentous decisions to be made for or against evil. People were concerned with their daily affairs, and on that level, Nazism seemed good. It seemed to bring prosperity, it made things work, it allowed people to feel good about themselves and their country. The moral issues — the ones that we now see as having been central — were carefully avoided.

When the full horror of Nazism was revealed at the end of the war, the German people responded, “We didn’t know.” When a local townsman was asked whether he knew what was going on in the camp, he gave a more complete answer. “Yes, we knew something



was up, but we didn't talk about it, we didn't want to know too much." Primo Levi, a writer and a survivor of Auschwitz, described the German ethical blind spot this way:

"In spite of the varied possibilities for information, most Germans didn't know because they didn't want to know. Because, indeed they wanted not to know... Those who knew did not talk; those who did not know did not ask questions; those who did ask questions received no answers. In this way the typical German citizen won and defended his ignorance, which seemed to him sufficient justification of his adherence to Nazism. Shutting his mouth, his eyes and his ears, he built for himself the illusion of not knowing, hence not being an accomplice to the things taking place in front of his door."

Martin Luther King, Jr. used to say that what pained him the most was the silence of the good. Albert Einstein, who fled Germany when Hitler came to power, articulated the same sentiment in an interview for Time Magazine on Dec. 23, 1940. He stressed that sometimes it was only the Church and religion that could challenge the status quo as evil made inroads into a society:

"Being a lover of freedom, when the revolution came in Germany I looked for the universities to defend it, knowing that they had always boasted of their devotion to the cause of truth; but no, the universities immediately were silenced. Then I looked to the great editors of the newspapers, whose flaming editorials in days gone by had proclaimed their love of freedom. But they, like the universities, were silenced in a few short weeks. Only the Church stood squarely across the path of Hitler's campaign for suppressing truth. I had never any special interest in the Church before, but now I feel a great affection and admiration because the Church alone has had the courage and persistence to stand for intellectual truth and moral freedom." The courageous, even daring question we must ask is, "What is our own response to the evil around us?"

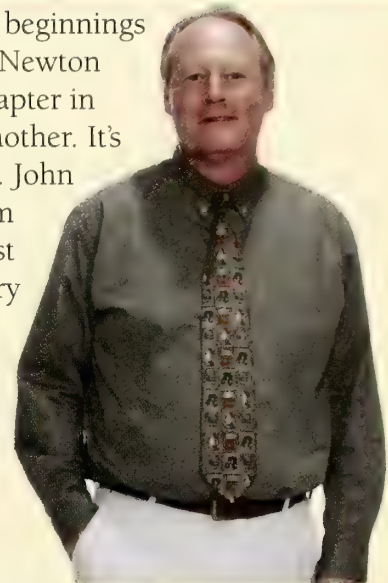
**Send your questions to:**  
**"Since you asked ..."**

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

**Or:**  
reece@raldioc.org

## Newton Grove: Another Story Line

**T**his month's cover story on the beginnings of the Catholic community in Newton Grove touches on only one chapter in that parish's very rich history. Here's another. It's ironic: As you'll read in the feature, Dr. John Carr Monk first considered Catholicism because of the division in his Methodist church over race. According to a history of the Monk family by Charles H. Bowman, Jr., the Goshen Methodist Church "was a mixed congregation; before the Civil War the slaves went to church with their masters, occupied the galleries, and often minded the restless white children."



"Now the former slave owners felt that the freed negroes should provide their own church, and the only dissenting voice was that of Dr. Monk. He argued that the blacks had no educated ministry and suggested that the congregation withhold its decision for a few years. Popular opinion prevailed, however. The eviction of the negroes affected the physician to the point that, with the help of his brother Rufus Monk, he built a Sunday school for the blacks and taught them himself."

In 1939, in honor of the Redemptorist Order which had administered St. Mark's in Newton Grove (the parish Monk assisted in founding) since 1928, the name of the church was changed to Holy Redeemer. The parish had long had schools for blacks and whites, separate of course, and in that same year it was deemed time for the "colored" to have their own church. So the parish hall, constructed with funds from Mother (now Saint) Katherine Drexel "to be used as a place of instruction for Colored people" was turned into a church and named St. Benedict.

Enter Bishop Vincent S. Waters, installed in Raleigh in 1945. Waters was an early and vigorous opponent of segregation, and in 1953 he came personally to Holy Redeemer (at serious personal risk) and closed St. Benedict, preaching a fiery sermon and ordering the Catholics in Newton Grove to worship together. The event put Bishop Waters, and Newton Grove, on the national stage, although the result, as in later mergers ordered by the Bishop, was a loss of many of the black Catholics who had preferred their own communities. It was immediately after the "Newton Grove Affair" that the name of the church there was changed once again, to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

— Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.

►► Thank you for your letters and emails! You can write me at 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.



**Dei Verbum, Part 1 of 2**

part two of a nine-part series on  
the Second Vatican Council

# God's loving revelation

Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture  
make up one single "deposit" of the Word  
of God, entrusted to the Church

**H**ave you ever received a gift that seemed to have every technological feature imaginable? What did you do with it? Unless you're some sort of prodigy, you probably had to find out what it was and how it worked before you could do anything at all! The most obvious places to begin would be talking to the person who gave it to you and reading the instruction manual.

The very fact of our existence has put us in a situation not unlike the one just described. Are not our very lives a gift, which we must learn how to use, so to speak? Some people believe human life is simply a mystery, and all we can expect of each other is to blunder around, trying not to hurt anyone. Others believe we can't know what life is for, and so make it their aim just to have as much pleasure as possible. Still, others avoid the question altogether. Yet, as Catholics, we believe that God did not simply leave us to ourselves to discover who we are and the meaning of our lives. Rather, the Giver of all good things has revealed Himself to us and has made His purpose for us abundantly clear.

Returning to our original example, wouldn't it be overwhelming if the person who gave you the gift sat you down and read the entire instruction manual to you all at once? God is certainly no less wise than us, and so has revealed Himself to us in stages. He began with our first parents, when He made known to them that He had created them to enjoy intimate friendship with Him. By sharing His own divine life, they were capable of

**Part 2 of our series examines the teachings of *Dei Verbum* (Latin for Word of God), the Second Vatican Council's Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation. It was promulgated by Pope Paul VI on Nov. 18, 1965. ►►**

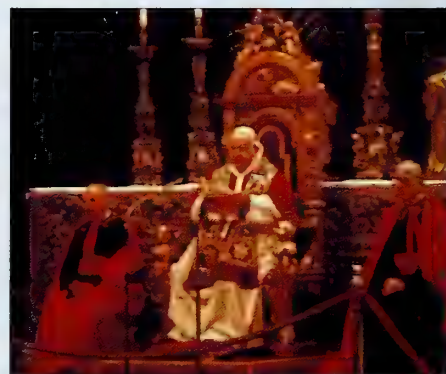
**If public revelation ended with the death of the last Apostle, what do the apparitions of Mary mean?**

►► Throughout history, there have been occasions of private revelations to certain individuals that have been recognized by the Church as authentic. Examples include the appearances of Mary to three children in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917, and to St. Bernadette Soubirous in Lourdes, France, in 1858. Private revelations do not add anything new to the deposit of faith, which has been transmitted in its entirety. If private revelations are not part of the deposit of the faith, thus not requiring the assent of faith, why has the Church recognized some to have value? Private revelations can never surpass,

correct or contradict the deposit of faith, but they may help Catholics to live their faith more fully in a certain period of history. (cf. CCC 67)

**Scripture alone? How does the Protestant understanding of Scripture differ from that of Catholics?**

►► The doctrine of *sola scriptura*, or Scripture alone, means for Protestants exactly that – the Bible alone is the infallible authority for their faith. Our Catholic understanding of Scripture is quite different. As Catholics, we hold that there is not one, but two distinct modes of transmission of the truths of revelation: sacred Scripture and sacred Tradition, both of which are safeguarded and interpreted by the Magisterium. In *Dei Verbum*, the



council Fathers stated, "both sacred Tradition and sacred Scripture are to be accepted and venerated with the same sense of loyalty and reverence ... for both of them, flowing from the same Divine wellspring, in a certain way merge into a unity and tend toward the same end." (DV 9)

**infallibility vs. inspiration**

►► All parts of the three-legged stool of Scripture, Tradition and the Magisterium, have a share in the charism of infallibility, which means that they are preserved by the Holy Spirit from teaching error in matters



responding to, knowing and loving Him far beyond their natural capacity. (cf. CCC 52) Even when Adam and Eve sinned – the equivalent of throwing a friend's gift in His face – God did not stop revealing Himself. Rather, He showed the depths of His goodness and love by promising them salvation and offering them His covenant. Through His promises to Noah, Abraham and Moses, God formed His people and revealed His law to them. Through the prophets, He filled His people's hearts with the hope of salvation and the expectation of a new and everlasting covenant intended for all, to be written on their hearts.

(cf. CCC 64, Jer 31:31-34)

God revealed Himself fully by sending His own Son. *Dei Verbum*, the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, calls Jesus the “mediator and fullness of all revelation” because He both reveals God to us and is Himself the fullness of revelation. (DV 2) While He was still on earth, Jesus made sure that everything He did and taught would be handed on faithfully to all people of every time and place. He gave His Apostles authority to preach the Gospel to the very ends of the earth, and sent them the Holy Spirit to “remind them of all that He had told them” and “to lead them into all truth.” (John 16:4,13) In turn, the Apostles and their successors, the Bishops, handed on what they themselves had received from Christ in two ways: orally, by their preaching, example and the institutions they established; and in writing, by themselves or by others associated with them, under the inspiration of the Holy

Spirit. The living transmission of the Gospel is called sacred Tradition, while the Word of God communicated in writing is sacred Scripture. Together, both sacred Tradition and sacred Scripture make up one single “deposit” of the Word of God, entrusted to the Church. (DV 10) In other words, God has both explained His gifts to us and left us an instruction manual!

The “deposit of faith” has been entrusted to the entire people of God. However, the task of authentically interpreting the Word of God belongs exclusively to the Church's teaching office, the Magisterium. The word *Magisterium* comes from the Latin word *magister*, meaning teacher. The Magisterium is simply Christ's own authority to teach, handed on through the Apostles to their successors, the Bishops – enabling them to apply revelation to the particular circumstances of every time and place. The Magisterium is not itself a part of the deposit of faith, but is its servant. (DV 10) This teaching office is necessary, because even though God's revelation to us in Christ is “already complete, it has not been made completely explicit.” (CCC 66) In other words, the Magisterium does not make up new things for Catholics to believe. It explains what the truths Christ has entrusted to us mean for us today. Our response to God's revelation is faith. We hear His Word, we give our assent to it and we put it into action.

— Sr. Maria Faustina Showalter, O.P., Sr. John Mary Corbett, O.P., Sr. Maria Gemma Martek, O.P., and Sr. Elizabeth Ann O'Reilly, O.P.

of faith and morals. However, it is Scripture alone that has the charism of inspiration. Simply put, “God is the author of sacred Scripture.” (CCC 105) God inspired human authors to put down in writing everything and only those things which He wanted written. Since God is the author and cannot make a mistake or lie, it necessarily follows that Scripture is without error. This is another “I” — inerrancy!

#### **prayer and reflection: act of faith**

▶▶ As one of the three theological virtues — along with hope and charity — faith expresses our belief in God as three Divine Persons and in all that He has revealed. For centuries, the faithful have prayed the acts of faith, hope and charity for an increase in these virtues which unite us directly to God. Along with the concise act of faith below, you may wish to make up your own, or take one straight from Scripture. (Look up Mark 9:34 and John 11:27.)

O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three Divine persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I believe that your Divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths that the holy Catholic Church teaches, because you have revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

#### **big “T” and little “t” tradition**

▶▶ In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, a clear distinction is made between apostolic Tradition and ecclesial traditions. apostolic Tradition refers to those teachings handed on by the Apostles, received from Jesus' teaching and example, and from what they learned from the Holy Spirit. This

apostolic Tradition, in virtue of the fact that it has been given to us by God and has been part of the Church's life and practice since its beginnings, may not be changed or



discarded, regardless of whether a particular teaching is popular in today's society. While apostolic Tradition itself may not be changed, “the particular forms, in which the great tradition is expressed,” may be adapted to different cultures and times.



# St. Andrew the Apostle

asked Jesus how they would feed so many

**Feast Day:** Nov. 30

Patron of Scotland, Russia, fishermen and unmarried women

**Claim to fame:** Saint Andrew was Simon Peter's brother, and one of the Twelve Apostles. He was first a disciple of John the Baptist, but following Jesus' baptism, he recognized Jesus as the Messiah and followed him. Interestingly, Saint Andrew introduced his famous brother Peter to Jesus. He is always listed as one of the first four apostles in the Bible. As an apostle, Saint Andrew spent a great deal of time with Jesus and was present at such major events as the Last Supper. He also is an early witness to the risen Christ.

**Early evangelist:** Since Saint Andrew was close to Jesus, he had heard Jesus speak about what would happen to those who preached the Gospel. Despite this, he went out and spread the word of God, going to such places as Cappadocia and Byzantium. Although there isn't accurate historical information about Saint Andrew's travels, it does appear he played an important role in early evangelization.

**Best quote:** Not much is known of Saint Andrew, but he did play a role in one major Gospel story. When Jesus fed the 5,000 people, it was Saint Andrew who pointed out that they only had five loaves of bread and two fish, and asked how they would feed so many people with so little.

**How he died:** According to tradition, under the reign of Emperor Nero, Saint Andrew was crucified on an X-shaped cross by the Roman governor Aegeas. In order to make him suffer more, however, Aegeas had Saint Andrew bound by ropes to the cross, rather than having him nailed. According to legend, he hung on the cross for two days, preaching to a crowd of about 20,000 people. On the third day, there was a blinding flash from heaven and Saint Andrew died.



## San André

**Día festivo:** 30 de noviembre

Santo patrón de Escocia, Rusia, de los pescadores y de las mujeres solteras.

### Hechos que le hicieron famoso:

Andrés fue el hermano de Simón Pedro, y uno de los doce apóstoles. Primero fue discípulo de Juan el Bautista, pero después del bautismo de Jesús, reconoció a éste como el Mesías y lo siguió. Curiosamente, Andrés presentó a su famoso hermano Pedro a Jesús. Siempre se le lista como uno de los primeros cuatro apóstoles en la Biblia. Como un apóstol, Andrés tendría que haber pasado mucho tiempo con Jesús y estaría presente en eventos tan importantes como la Última Cena y la Resurrección.

**Por qué es un santo:** Puesto que Andrés estaba cerca de Jesús, había oído a Jesús hablar acerca de lo que les ocurriría a aquellos que predicaran el Evangelio. A pesar de ello, se lanzó al mundo y predicó la palabra de Dios en sitios como Capadocia y Bizancio. Aunque no hay información histórica exacta acerca de lo que Andrés hizo, parece que jugó un papel importante en los comienzos de la evangelización.

**Mejor cita:** No se sabe mucho de Andrés, pero jugó un papel en una importante historia del Evangelio. Cuando Jesús alimentó a 5,000 personas, fue Andrés quien señaló que sólo tenían cinco hogazas de pan y dos peces y quien preguntó cómo alimentarían tanta gente con tan poco.

**Cómo murió:** Bajo el reino del Emperador Nerón, Andrés fue crucificado en una cruz en forma de X por el gobernador romano Aegeas. Sin embargo, para hacerlo sufrir más, Aegeas hizo que a Andrés lo amarraran con cuerdas a la cruz, en lugar de clavarlo. Conforme a la leyenda, colgó de la cruz por dos días, predicándole a una multitud de cerca de 20,000 personas. El tercer día, hubo un relámpago cegador del cielo, y Andrés murió.

### The third session of Vatican II closed on November 21, what year?

▶▶ The *Decree on Ecumenism*, one of the three documents approved by the close of the third session of Vatican II, declared both Catholics and Protestants to blame for past divisions and called for dialogue, not derision, in the future. The third session of Vatican II closed on **Nov. 21, WHAT YEAR?**

Answer 1964





## Could You Teach Your Faith?

**I** recently received a phone call. A pleasant voice asked, "Is this a ministry?" I answered, "I am in charge of a ministry, but this is my home. I am in charge of African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization." She replied, "Do you pray?" My answer was yes. She replied, "Thank you." End of conversation.

This brought to my mind how uninformed many people are about us Catholics. It also brought to my mind a query. How informed are we as Catholics to respond to the questions about our faith that the local people ask?

Our non-Catholic neighbors do not hesitate to ask such questions as "Do you Catholics pray?" "Why do you worship Mary?" "Why do you have idols in your church?" "What is Mass?" "Have you gone under the water?" (This means "Have you been baptized by immersion?")

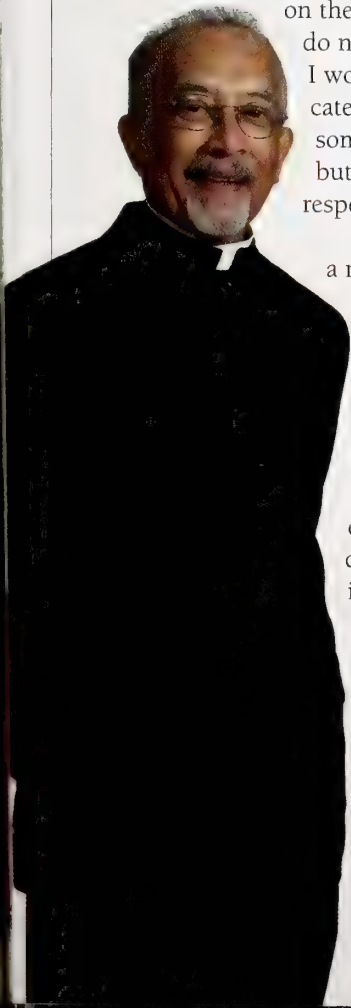
These are just some of the questions that are asked.

How many of us can answer them clearly? I think that too many of us do not keep up on the teaching of our religion. We do not read enough about our faith. I wonder how many of us have catechisms at home. I know that some think catechisms are passé, but the question and answer format responds to human need.

We don't need to enter into a mode of defending our faith. We need to get into a mode of really knowing our faith so we can explain it to others accurately. I believe this is something we need to seriously consider and act upon.

And the better we know our faith, the more fully and completely we will be able to live it, as St. Paul says in his letter to Titus, "holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that [we] will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict" Titus 1:9.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden



## ¿Celebramos la muerte o la vida?

**L**a muerte no es un ser vivo pero busca a los que lo están. Invade a los seres humanos en sus diferentes edades. Impera en las culturas de todas las épocas con signos de violencia y destrucción. Se disfraza con las banderas de justicia, libertad y orden, pero deja sentir su fuerza en la compra y venta de la gran tentación del poder y la riqueza material.

Se burla de la miseria y del abandono que sufren los seres en la tierra, jugando con el hambre, la pobreza y la enfermedad, latigando a los niños y jóvenes sin derecho a educación, salud y bienestar; esclavizando a los trabajadores que lo hacen para sobrevivir y persiguiendo a tantos millones de seres que abandonan su patria por tantas razones y se hacen migrantes, perseguidos, discriminados y hasta se califican de ilegales y despreciados por los grupos racistas.

La muerte sigue invadiendo a nuestra humanidad con dolor, miedo, tragedia, terrorismo, fanatismo, patriotismo y religión. Pues tenemos grupos que la adoran, le rezan, la invocan y hasta la manipulan para conseguir favores.

Otros la tienen como amuleto para sus negocios, como protección ante sus enemigos y como escape para sus crímenes. También sirve para callar a la verdad, para amedrentar a la justicia y para ahuyentar la paz entre los habitantes de la tierra.

Ha sido una trampa para los que buscan ser felices sin responsabilidad, de los que han querido ser libres sin compromiso y de los que creen que saben todo y hacen de todo sin valores ni moral.

Ha sido un punto de llegada por los caminos del alcohol, la droga, el sexo, la brujería y la superstición. Sin escandalizarnos por nombrar algunos fanáticos que predicán un mundo supra-espiritual y desencarnado de nuestra vida terrenal.

Cristo murió por nosotros para reconciliarnos con el Padre, Cristo resucitó para vencer el pecado y la muerte y nosotros hemos sido bautizados para ser signos de vida. De tal manera que no adoramos la muerte, sino la vida que hemos conquistado con Cristo y con obras nosotros debemos profesar cada día su triunfo, su santidad y su perfección.

— Padre Fernando Torres





At the beginning of 1871, no one in the rural east Carolina town of Newton Grove was Catholic. In the next two decades, more than 300 men, women and children, many of them one-time haters of Catholics, had joined the Church.


It's tempting to call this flowering of the faith in such unlikely soil a miracle. Abundance from nothing, like the loaves and fishes. A contradiction of nature, like the roses Juan Diego brought in midwinter to the Bishop of Mexico. In any case, it began with a startling coincidence.



# "The Finger of God Touched"

## THE REMARKABLE BIRTH OF CATHOLICITY





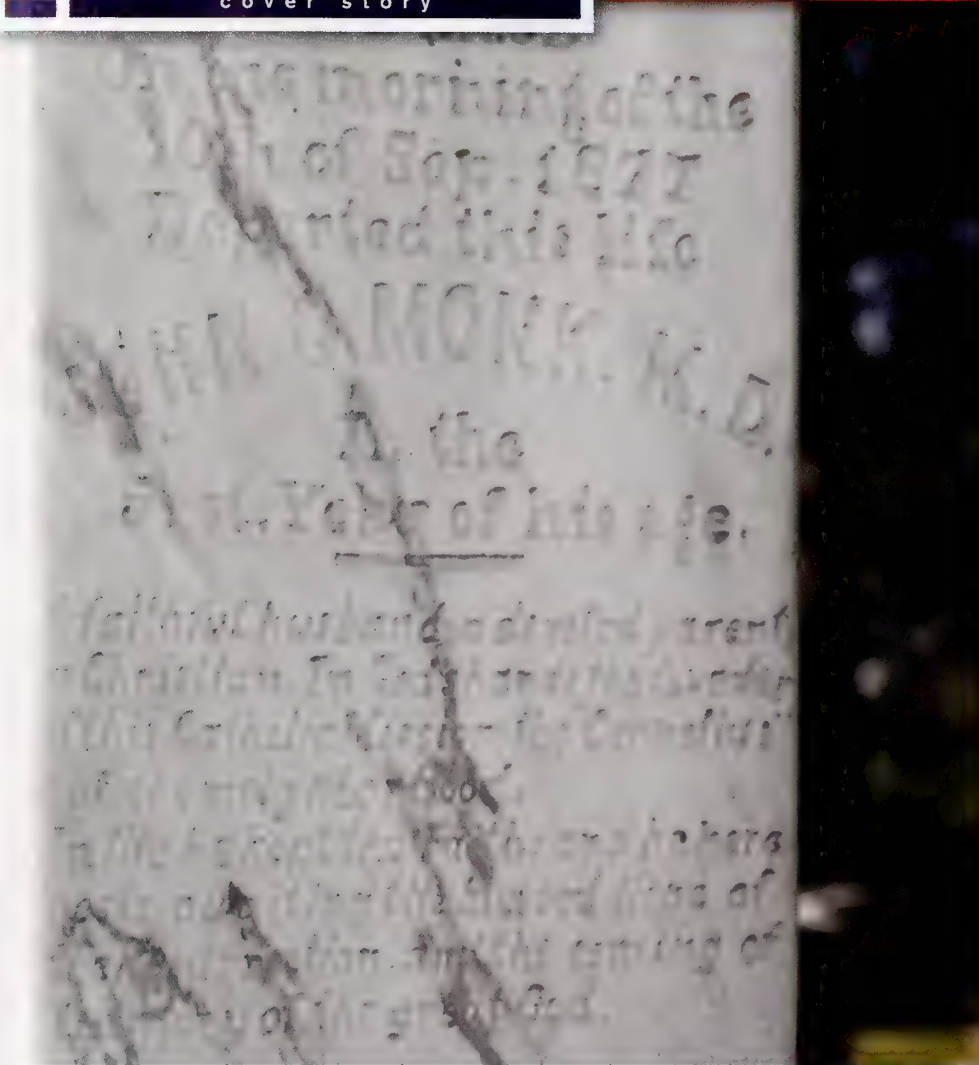
▶ Peggy Packer Jones  
and Angela Page are  
descendants of Dr. John  
Carr Monk.

# hed Here

---

LICISM IN NEWTON GROVE, N.C.





**I**n 1871, one of the most influential and popular pillars of the Newton Grove community was undergoing a crisis of faith. Forty-four-year-old Dr. John Carr Monk had been a staunch member of the local Methodist church, but the year before he had seen his congregation eject its black members. What kind of Christianity, he wondered, would seek to separate its believers from each other?

While these thoughts were troubling the physician, he received a package of medical supplies he had ordered from New York. They were wrapped in recent edition of the *New York Herald*, an edition which had published the New Year's Day sermon of Archbishop William McCloskey, a sermon that preached the necessity of unity among Christians and touted the Catholic Church as the place where that unity could be found.

Monk was already well known and highly regarded as a

man who backed his convictions with action, and McCloskey's sermon moved him. But what was he to do? Historian William F. Powers, in his book *Tar Heel Catholics* (University Press of America, 2003), describes Monk's situation:

"Until this moment, Monk had never read any Catholic materials, entered a Catholic church, or had any communication with a Catholic clergyman ... In addition, there were no members of that religion in Sampson County where he lived and only a few hundred in the entire state. Furthermore, anti-Catholic sentiment was as pervasive in his community as the acres of cotton fields through which he traveled each day to visit his patients."

Nevertheless, Monk wrote a letter describing his dissatisfaction with his own church and his interest in learning about Catholicism, and addressed it "To Any Catholic Priest, Wilmington, NC." Would such a letter get delivered today?

Amazingly, Monk's letter was given to Father Mark S. Gross, Pastor of Wilmington's St. Thomas Church. Father Gross showed the letter to Bishop (later Cardinal) James Gibbons, Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina, who sent Monk a list of books to read about the Church. The doctor did his homework, and in October, along with his wife and two daughters, was received into the Church in Wilmington by Bishop Gibbons.

Then Dr. John Carr Monk went home, and became North Carolina's most productive Catholic missionary up until that time. Overcoming anti-Catholicism with what Powers calls his "obvious sincerity, personal integrity and jovial disposition," the doctor answered questions, handed out literature and welcomed Father Gross and Bishop Gibbons, who visited Newton Grove and preached to crowds larger than they had encountered anywhere else in the state.

Charles H. Bowman, Jr., in his entry on Dr. Monk in the *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography* (The University of North Carolina Press, 1991), writes that "it became neces-

**Dr. John Carr Monk went home, and became North Carolina's most productive Catholic missionary up until that time ... Overcoming anti-Catholicism ... the doctor answered questions, handed out literature.**





### A Saint Visited Here

St. Katharine Drexel (1858-1955), a benefactor of the Church in Newton Grove, visited there in 1910.

St. Katharine Drexel, the Philadelphia heiress and nun who founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, spent her entire fortune, some \$20 million, on missionary work, particularly on the care and evangelization of blacks and native Americans.

Father James F. Garneau, a Church historian and at the time Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Newton Grove, wrote about Mother Drexel's generosity to the Church in North Carolina in *The North Carolina Catholic* in 1988, on the occasion of her beatification. (St. Katharine was canonized in 2000.)

Father Garneau wrote, "In 1895, \$500 was given [among other contribution to churches in the state] to enlarge the church in Newton Grove, with the provision that a section of pews would be set aside in the enlarged church for use by 'Colored People,' and that they would always be welcomed in the church."

Mother Drexel began a correspondence with Father Michael Irwin, pastor in Newton Grove, which would last more than 20 years. "He constantly informed her of his progress and struggles in the rural mission," Father Garneau wrote, "and continually pleaded for her generosity... Always her support came with the requirement that particular attention be given to the spiritual needs of the black community..."

"In 1910, Mother Katharine visited Father Irwin in Newton Grove. Staying with the Sisters who were teaching at both the white and colored schools then in existence, she was able to witness the missionary efforts of the Catholic Church in this area, and the zeal of Father Irwin."

sary to erect a temporary shelter for their accommodation and to make plans for the construction of a permanent church and a schoolhouse. Monk donated money and land for the buildings, and work on them soon commenced." In 1874, Bishop Gibbons consecrated St. Mark Church, so named in honor of Father Gross. The congregation continued to grow, even

after Dr. Monk's sudden death at the age of 50, and Cardinal Gibbons would refer to the doctor years later as "the Monk who fathered 300 children."

Today many of Monk's actual descendants attend the Catholic Church, now named after Our Lady of Guadalupe, in Newton Grove. Many more have lived and died, and are buried in the cemetery behind the church. The headstone at Dr.

Monk's gravesite bears this inscription: "A faithful husband; a devoted father; a Christian. In God's hands the founder of this Catholic Mission; the 'Cornelius' of the neighborhood. In life he kept the Faith; and he here rests, awaiting the blessed Hope of the Resurrection." "Cornelius" is a reference to the centurion in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 10. A Gentile, he was inspired to invite Peter to his home, where the Apostle preached and converted Cornelius and many other Gentiles.

As Powers notes, Bishop Gibbons and Father Gross hoped that the relative explosion of Catholicism in Newton Grove would be a pattern followed across the state, but growth in this way did not happen. The way in which the faith flowered in Newton Grove was unique. Was it a miracle? Some think so. In the church, a stained glass window shows a devout Dr. Monk looking towards the heavens. God's hand extends from the clouds and touches the doctor's forehead. A scroll in the air reads, "The Finger of God Touched Here."

### The Priests' Cemetery

On Oct. 3, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge dedicated the granite altar in the cemetery at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Newton Grove. The altar, near the grave of Bishop Vincent S. Waters, third Bishop of Raleigh, was erected in a section of the cemetery set aside for priests of the Diocese of Raleigh. It is also the site, each year, of a Mass celebrated by the Bishop on All Souls Day. The Latin inscription on the altar translates as "You Are a Priest Forever."





♥♥ Peggy Packer Jones y Angela Page son descendientes del Dr. John Carr Monk.

# La presencia de Dios descendió en este lugar

## EL IMPRESIONANTE NACIMIENTO DEL CATOLICISMO EN NEWTON GROVE, CAROLINA DEL NORTE

**A** comienzos de 1871, nadie en pueblo rural de Newton Grove era católico, pero en las siguientes dos décadas, más de 300 hombres, mujeres y niños, incluso los que odiaban a los católicos, se han unido a la iglesia.

Me atrevo a decir que ocurrió un milagro en el florecimiento de la fe en un terreno tan impracticable como éste, tal vez es una contradicción de la naturaleza, como las rosas que Juan Diego le trajo al Obispo de México en pleno invierno; cualquiera que sea el caso, todo comenzó con una sorprendente coincidencia. En 1871, una de las influencias más notables y pilares de la comunidad de Newton Grove, enfrentaba una crisis de fe. El Doctor John Carr Monk de 44 años de edad, fue un miembro incondicional de la Igle-

sia local Metodista, pero el año anterior presenció que su congregación expulsó a sus miembros de color. — ¿Qué clase de cristiandad busca separar a los creyentes de los demás?—se preguntó.

Mientras que estos pensamientos rondaban la mente del doctor, recibió un paquete con suministros médicos que ordenó de la ciudad de Nueva York, las cuales estaban envueltas en la mas reciente edición del *New York Herald*. En dicha versión, venia publicado el sermón del Arzobispo Wiliam McCloskey, el cual enfatizaba la necesidad de unidad entre los cristianos y comercializar la idea de que la iglesia católica es el sitio ideal para encontrar dicha unidad. Monk ya era reconocido como un hombre de convicción y de acción, pero el sermón de McCloskey lo conmovió. Pero, ¿ahora que podría hacer? El historiador William F Powers en su libro *Tar Heel Catholics* (University Press of America, 2003) describe la situación de Monk de la siguiente manera:

“Hasta el momento, Monk nunca había leído ningún documento católico, entrado a una iglesia, o hablado con ningún sacerdote... Además, en el Condado de Sampson no existía nadie de dicha religión, puesto que veía que el sentimiento anticatólico prevalecía en su comunidad a medida que realizaba sus viajes cada día por los sembradíos de algodón para visitar a sus pacientes.”

Entonces, Monk escribió una carta describiendo su descontento con su propia iglesia y su interés en aprender sobre el catolicismo y la tituló: *A cualquier sacerdote católico*, Wilmington, Carolina del Norte. Para su sorpresa, la carta de Monk fue entregada al Padre Mark S. Gross, párroco de Wilmington de la Iglesia de St. Thomas. El Padre le

mostró la carta al Obispo (tiempo después nombrado Cardenal) James Gibbons, Vicario Apostólico de Carolina del Norte, quien luego le envió libros con respecto a la iglesia. El Doctor realizó su tarea y en octubre, junto con su esposa e hijas, fueron recibidos en la Iglesia de Wilmington por el Obispo Gibbons.

El Dr. John Carr Monk se convirtió en unos de los misionarios católicos mas productivos de Carolina del Norte; superando al sentimiento anticatólico con lo que él describe como “sinceridad, integridad y disposición muy jovial” El doctor respondió preguntas, repartió panfletos e invitó al Padre Gross y al Obispo Gibbons a predicar en Newton Grove frente a una multitud mayor a otros encuentros en el Estado.

Charles H. Bowman Jr agregó al Dr Monk en el Dic-

**El Dr. John Carr Monk regreso a su casa y se convirtió en unos de los misionarios católicos mas productivos de Carolina del Norte.**





## Un Santo descansa aquí

St. Katharine Drexel (1858-1955) benefactora de la iglesia de Newton Grove, visitó el lugar en 1910.

St Katherine Drexel, la heredera de Filadelfia y monja fundadora de las Hermanas del Sagrado Sacramento, invirtió toda su fortuna, unos 20 millones de dólares, en trabajo misionero, particularmente en el cuidado y la evangelización de los afroamericanos y los indios nativos.

EL Padre Garneau, experto en historia de la iglesia y en aquel tiempo Párroco de la iglesia de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en Newton Grove, escribió acerca de la generosidad de la Madre Drexel a la Iglesia en Carolina del Norte (The North Carolina Catholic in 1988) en la ocasión de su beatificación. (St Katharine fue canonizada en el año 2000.)

Padre Garneau escribió: En 1895, \$500 fueron destinados a la ampliación de la iglesia de Newton Grove, con la condición de que una sección de bancos deba ser reservada en la iglesia para el uso de "gente de color" y ellos siempre serán recibidos en la iglesia."

Madre Drexel mantuvo comunicación con el Padre Michael Irwin, párroco de Newton Grove, por 20 años. "Él la informaba con regularidad

acerca de su progreso, los esfuerzos de la misión rural, y suplicaba por su generosidad... siempre recibió su apoyo siempre y cuando le brindara atención a la necesidad espiritual de la comunidad afroamericana..." escribió Padre Garneau.

"En 1910, Madre Katharine visitó al Padre Irwin en Newton Grove y se quedó con las hermanas que enseñaban a ambas comunidades (blanca y de color) en las escuelas existentes, fue testigo del trabajo misionero y el esfuerzo de la Iglesia Católica en este área, además del compromiso del Padre Irwin."

cionario Biográfico de Carolina del Norte (*Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, The University of North Carolina Press, 1991*), "fue necesario construir una sede temporal para acomodarlos y elaborar los planos de la sede permanente de la iglesia y de la escuela." Monk donó dinero y terreno para la construcción de la sede y pronto se dedicó a trabajar. En 1874, Obispo Gibbons consagró la Iglesia

de St. Mark, en honor al Padre Gross. La congregación continuó creciendo, incluso mucho después de la abrupta muerte del Dr. Monk a los 50 años de edad. Tiempo después, el Cardenal Gibbons comentó que "Monk fue padre de 300 hijos."

En la actualidad, muchos de los verdaderos descendientes de Monk asisten a la iglesia católica, que ahora lleva por nombre Nuestra Señora de

Guadalupe, en Newton Grove. Muchos de ellos han fallecido y descansan en el cementerio detrás de la iglesia. La lapida del Dr. Monk lleva las siguientes inscripciones: Un esposo leal, un padre devoto y cristiano. En las manos de Dios, el fundador de ésta misión católica, el Cornelio de esta comunidad. En vida mantuvo su fe, y sus restos están a la espera de la resurrección." Cornelio, es el centurión del capítulo 10 de Hechos de los Apóstoles. Un gentil, quien fue inspirado a recibir a Pablo en su hogar, donde el Apóstol convirtió a Cornelio en otro Gentil.

Como lo indica Powers, Obispo Gibbons y el Padre Gross tenían la esperanza que esta relativa explosión del catolicismo en Newton Grove sería un modelo a seguir en todo el Estados, lo cual nunca ocurrió. La fe floreció en Newton Grove de forma única; ¿fue un milagro? Algunos lo piensan. En la iglesia, un vitral muestra al Dr. Monk mirando hacia el cielo y Dios extiende su mano entre las nubes y toca la frente del doctor. Un manuscrito flotante dice: "La mano de Dios descendió aquí."

## El cementerio de sacerdotes

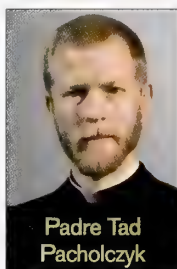
El 3 de octubre, Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh, dedicó un altar de granito en el cementerio de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en Newton Grove. El altar, el cual se encuentra cerca de la tumba de Obispo Vincent S Water, tercer Obispo de Raleigh, fue colocada en una sección del cementerio reservada para los sacerdotes de la Diócesis de Raleigh. También es lugar cada año de la Misa celebrada por el Obispo en el Día de los Santos. La inscripción en latin traduce: "Serás Sacerdote por siempre."





## Dear NCC: ¿Respondemos a la maldad a nuestro alrededor?

**E**n mi viaje a Auschwitz hace algunos años, una pregunta daba vueltas en mi mente: ¿Lo sabían? ¿Sabía la gente de Alemania lo que estaba pasando en este campo cercano a su propia frontera, en sus propios territorios ocupados? ¿Con los trenes yendo y viniendo año tras año, con las largas filas de prisioneros y las humeantes chimeneas? ¿Miraban acaso con ojos ciegos las atrocidades? ¿Se habían desensibilizado a tal punto que ya no podían ver las operaciones de muerte que tan cuidadosamente se coreografiaban en las cercanías?



**Padre Tad Pacholczyk**  
— El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk hizo su doctorado en neurociencias en la Universidad de Yale y su trabajo postdoctoral en la Universidad de Harvard. Es Sacerdote para la Diócesis de Fall River, Massachusetts, y se desempeña como Director de Educación en el Centro Nacional Católico de Bioética en Philadelphia. The National Catholic Bioethics Center: [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)  
Traducción: Maria Elena Rodriguez

Algunos campos de concentración, como el de Dachau, estaban asentados en confortables suburbios dentro mismo de Alemania, y los habitantes podían pasar cerca durante sus rutinas diarias. El césped en ese lugar seguía creciendo tan verde como en cualquier otra parte, las personas se casaban, los bebés nacían, los hombres iban al trabajo y la vida continuaba.

Al pasar por un lugar como Dachau o Auschwitz, uno se pregunta, ¿Podría suceder de nuevo? ¿Podría presentarse un escenario similar en la clase media de Estados Unidos? Muchos contestarían instintivamente “no” —después de todo, vivimos en una cultura y en una época más instruidas. Sin embargo, si miramos con más atención, podemos discernir paralelos problemáticos. En ninguna parte son tan evidentes estos paralelos como en los temas bioéticos de la actualidad. Nuestra sociedad, de hecho, enfrenta virtualmente la misma tentación que Alemania: la tentación de estandarizar ciertas operaciones de muerte, bien diseñadas dentro de una sociedad respetable.

Si vemos hacia el interior de nuestra propia cultura y en nuestra propia época, nos damos cuenta de que las máquinas de aspiración han tomado el lugar de las chimeneas, y de que las clínicas de fertilidad (Fertility Clinics) y los centros de salud para la mujer (Women's Health Clinics) han substituido a los alambres de púas. En esta respetable sociedad, seres humanos por nacer y bebés embrionarios son desechados con la misma insensibilidad y facilidad que se hacía con los internos de aquellos campos de concentración, y ni una sola palabra se menciona al respecto. Nuestras grandes universidades, que debieran servir como una voz moral, permanecen mudas e inclusive apoyan tales maldades, como lo hace la prensa, y pocos se atreven a hablar del aire de muerte que flota en el ambiente.

No hay más que mirar hacia las clínicas para la planeación de los hijos (Planned Parenthood) localizadas por todo el país. Las generaciones futuras muy probablemente se sorprenderán ante las estadísticas: casi dos millones de muertes por año. Seguramente se

# Querido lector de NCC

Por: Padre Tad Pacholczyk

harán preguntas respecto a aquellos que terminaron con las vidas de sus propios hijos mediante el aborto por elección, a razón de 1 cada 23 segundos. Se preguntarán, seguramente, “¿Cómo pudieron hacer eso?” y, “¿Lo sabían?”.

Sólo hay que dirigir la mirada hacia las clínicas para la fertilidad (Fertility Clinics) presentes en cualquier ciudad grande de Estados Unidos. Las próximas generaciones se escandalizarán, seguramente, con los números: la fertilización in vitro produciendo cientos de miles de humanos embrionarios que luego son congelados en nitrógeno líquido y convertidos, según palabras de un comentarista, en “paletas heladas”. Se consternarán por los muchos otros embriones humanos tratados como objetos, eliminados como desechos médicos, que terminaron en el drenaje o fueron objeto de experimentación, minas de oro por sus células madre embrionarias.

El mal puede mostrarse como una trivialidad. No necesariamente se presenta de una manera monstruosa o dramática. Puede adoptar la forma de una simple conformidad con lo que todos los demás hacen, con lo que los líderes dicen que es correcto, con lo que los vecinos hacen. La intrusión gradual de la maldad en nuestras vidas puede ser algo que ni siquiera notamos debido a que no estamos poniendo atención; puede ser algo que está apenas en la periferia de nuestra conciencia.

La mayoría de quienes han colaborado en los más terribles crímenes y falsedades de la historia no eran necesariamente unos monstruos inhumanos. Muchas veces se trataba de personas como nosotros. Eran capaces de dar y recibir compasión y amor; podían tener bellos sentimientos e ideales nobles. Una maldad casi increíble podía coexistir con el heroísmo, la lealtad, la familia y la cultura.

Durante los años nazis, no había decisiones trascendentales que tomar a favor o en contra del mal. La gente estaba ocupada en sus asuntos diarios y, en ese momento, el nazismo parecía bueno: aparentemente traía prosperidad, hacía que las cosas funcionaran, permitía a las personas sentirse bien consigo mismas y con su país. Los temas morales —los que ahora vemos como centrales, cuidadosamente se evitaban.

Cuando todo el horror del nazismo se hizo visible al final de la guerra, el pueblo de Alemania respondió, “Nosotros no sabíamos”. Cuando se le preguntó a un habitante local respecto a si sabía lo que estaba





## Santa Katharine Drexel: Un ejemplo a seguir para la temporada de Adviento

pasando en el campo, él dio una respuesta más amplia: "Sí, sabíamos que algo estaba sucediendo, pero no hablábamos de ello, no queríamos saber demasiado". Primo Levi, escritor y sobreviviente de Auschwitz, describió así el punto ciego de la ética alemana:

"A pesar de las diversas posibilidades que tenían para informarse, la mayoría de los alemanes no sabían porque no querían saber. Porque realmente lo que querían era no enterarse. ... Los que sabían no hablaban; los que no sabían no hacían preguntas; los que sí preguntaban no recibían respuestas. De esta manera el ciudadano típico de Alemania ganaba y defendía su ignorancia, lo cual le parecía justificación suficiente para su adhesión al nazismo. Cerrando la boca, sus ojos y sus oídos, construía para sí mismo la ilusión de no saber, y por lo tanto, de no ser cómplice de las cosas que estaban sucediendo justo frente a su puerta".

Martin Luther King, Jr. decía que lo que más le dolía era el silencio de la gente de bien. Albert Einstein, quien abandonara Alemania cuando Hitler subió al poder, expresó el mismo sentimiento en una entrevista para la revista Time el 23 de diciembre de 1940. Remarcó que en algunas ocasiones eran únicamente la Iglesia y la religión las que cuestionaban el estado de cosas de la sociedad ante la maldad que había logrado infiltrarse en ella:

"Siendo un amante de la libertad, cuando la revolución llegó a Alemania recurrí a las universidades para defenderla, ya que ellas siempre habían hecho alarde de su devoción por la causa de la verdad; pero no, las universidades inmediatamente fueron silenciadas. Luego me dirigí a los editores de periódicos que en épocas pasadas habían proclamado, en apasionados editoriales, su amor a la libertad. Sin embargo, al igual que las universidades, ellos también fueron silenciados a las pocas semanas. Sólo la Iglesia se atravesó de lleno en el camino de la campaña de Hitler por acallar la verdad. Yo nunca había tenido un interés especial en la Iglesia, pero ahora sentía un gran aprecio y admiración pues únicamente ella había tenido la valentía y el empeño para defender la verdad intelectual y la libertad moral".

La valiente, y más aún, retardadora pregunta que debemos hacer es, "¿Cuál es nuestra propia respuesta a la maldad que nos rodea?".

**E**ste mes, nuestra revista diocesana tiene como tema principal la historia de Newton Grove, que describe el crecimiento del catolicismo en el área. Recordemos que en 1910, Santa Katharine Drexel, fundadora de las Hermanas del Sagrado Sacramento y canonizada en el año 2000, visitó Newton Grove como benefactora de la iglesia y garante de las necesidades espirituales de la comunidad afroamericana. Siento gran devoción por esta santa porque ella nació en la misma ciudad donde yo nací, además de haber ayudado y visitado a la Diócesis en la cual ahora tengo el privilegio de servir como Obispo.

A finales de este mes, la Iglesia comenzará la celebración de Adviento y el ejemplo de Santa Katharine Drexel es oportuno porque nos enseña la manera de preparar nuestros corazones para recibir la abundante gracia de esta temporada sagrada. Se le atribuyeron dos milagros a Katharine Drexel en el proceso de canonización y ambos fueron por curar la sordera, y en este mundo agitado y ruidoso en que vivimos, cada vez tenemos menos tiempo para escuchar. La temporada de adviento es una invitación especial a estar más cerca de Jesucristo, en especial, cuando se revela a nosotros por medio de Su Palabra. Hay momentos donde podemos ser sordos de miles de maneras, pero Él nos habla directo al corazón y nos guía por el camino. En especial durante el Adviento, los invito a meditar con detenimiento la Palabra de Dios de forma planificada y deliberada. A diario, tómense el tiempo para orar y "escuchar" Su voz.

Eucaristía, el Sacramento de la esperanza, fue el centro de la vida de Santa Katharine Drexel. En su vida y ministerio, al igual que todos nosotros, enfrentó muchos desafíos, sin embargo, ella enseñó consistentemente que la Eucaristía en nuestra única esperanza para ser uno solo con Cristo, vencedor del demonio, de la frustración, de la ansiedad, del pecado y de la misma muerte para que así pudiéramos celebrar la paz del Señor durante la Temporada de Adviento. Por eso los invito a que confíen en Él y encuentren la fuente de su fortaleza en el Sagrado Sacramento.

Santa Katharine Drexel trabajó diligentemente por la unidad de las personas, y con valor, buscó erradicar toda forma de prejuicio, racismo e injusticia. Mientras nos preparamos para celebrar el nacimiento de Cristo, quien nos unió como hermanos y hermanas, debemos alejar toda dureza y odio de nuestros corazones. En esta tem-

porada los invito a restituir las amistades que han perdido al igual que perdonar a los demás. Solo cuando estamos en paz con los demás podemos celebrar con plenitud la paz de Cristo. También, los invito a prepararse espiritualmente para Navidad, celebrar el perdón del Señor en el Sacramento de Penitencia y la nueva vida que nos brinda.

La evangelización de afroamericanos, de los indios americanos y de todas las personas ocurrió durante el ministerio de Santa Katharine Drexel; al igual que también atendió las necesidades de los demás, sobre todo de los más pobres. Ella fue una verdadera misionera quien fue hasta los confines del mundo para invitar al pueblo a recibir al Señor Jesús y a Su iglesia. En esta temporada sagrada, consigan la manera de compartir sus recursos con los más necesitados entre nosotros. Con amor, inviten a los miembros de su familia, amigos, compañeros de trabajo, etc., que hayan abandonado la fe a regresar a la casa del Señor en estas Navidades.

Santa Katharine Drexel nos recuerda como podemos influenciar a los demás. En la carta que escribió a sus Hermanas en Navidad dijo: "Reflexiones en el niño Jesús y piensen en lo pequeño que eran sus pies. Nosotros no tenemos que hacer algo grandioso en nuestras vidas, solo sigan esos pequeños pasos y dejen que Dios haga el resto para que transforme esos pequeños pasos en enormes pasos que nos ayudarán a llevar la paz, la esperanza, el amor y la alegría de Jesucristo a todas las personas que conozcamos."

En el Evangelio del primer domingo de Adviento, Jesús nos llama a "estar alerta" para responder a ese llamado si buscamos la gracia de Dios, y sigamos el ejemplo de Santa Katharine Drexel. Pidamos por su intersección para que llevemos la paz, la esperanza, el amor y la alegría de Jesucristo a todas las personas que conozcamos"

— Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge, Obispo de Raleigh



**S**kip is planning a trip to the lake with the guys this summer. Jean wants Skip to be with the family.

## I want to go fishing with the guys

### he says

**Skip says:** A bunch of the guys are planning a big fishing trip this summer – cabin in the woods, days out on the lake, some cards and beer at night. It sounds great to me and I could really use the break from the stress of work and family. I think Jean's being a little selfish by objecting – if she wants to go somewhere with her friends, maybe her parents could watch the kids.

## I want a family vacation

### she says

**Jean says:** I can't believe Skip wants to spend all of his vacation time away from me and the kids. This is the only chance we get for some uninterrupted family time, and he'd rather spend it with his buddies at the lake. I'm really hurt – and the kids are going to be very disappointed.

### what do they do?

Stating the obvious, Skip and Jean are not communicating on the same wavelength. There is certainly a difference between what Skip and Jean call a vacation. To him it appears to be a chance to get away from all responsibilities associated with being a father, a husband, an employee. To her, it appears to be a chance for increased family bonding and relationship building. Having faced similar situations in our marriage, we believe Skip and Jean's first priority should be to bridge their definitions of vacation. Communication at the root level would be the goal, and compromise may be a possible solution. To do that, the first serious activity they should engage in is to listen to each other. Listen with a non-judgmental ear and an open heart. Listen intently and intentionally. Listen without framing a response as your partner shares what his or her wants, needs and desires are for a vacation. Questions that should be asked: What do



He said  
She said  
what do they

I want from a vacation? What do I hope to gain from taking vacation as a family or alone? When we take a family vacation, how does that make me feel? Start with a question such as, "Why do I believe I need to vacation separately from my family?"

Clearing the air at the root level is imperative; or a true solution will be most difficult to achieve. It is very possible that Skip truly needs some time away from the family. Using the entire amount of vacation to satisfy only his needs would be selfish and not conducive to building a strong family unit, though. If, however, Skip and Jean agree on Skip's need to spend some

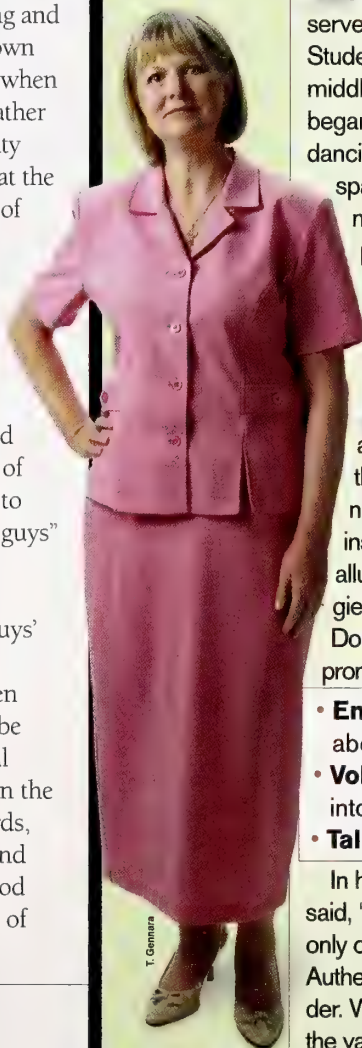




## Come a little closer Is dancing at the prom immoral?



**Do rules against dancing diminish a homecoming dance or a prom experience? No! What can we do as parents?**



T. Gemara

time away bonding with his buddies instead of with his family (you can see by the tone which one we don't advise), a compromise on the amount of time is in order. Maybe three days fishing and the remaining four days with family. One extremely helpful hint we can give to Skip and Jean is that before starting the process of communicating with each other on this topic, they should join hands and pray out loud for God to send the Holy Spirit to be with them during this discussion. You will be amazed at the transformation prayer can bring to a discussion session. Once you try prayer before having a serious discussion, you will be hooked.

We do fear Skip may have missed what it means to be family. There is more to being family than name only; it means to become outwardly focused. Focus more on others (spouse, children, extended family members) than on oneself, which is an inward focus. It means each individual member puts the welfare of other family members ahead of his or her own wants and desires. It means to put the common good of the family ahead of what is good for only one member of the family. It means to be Jesus to others. Jesus was thoughtful, caring and compassionate toward others – ahead of his own welfare – even when it cost him his life; even when it was unpopular to those around him. As a father and husband, Skip has a role and responsibility crucial to the success of his family unit, even at the expense of being unpopular with the “bunch of guys” planning a fishing trip.

When a person accepts the responsibility of spouse and parent, he is saying “yes” to being a co-creator with God. When we say “yes” to one thing, we are saying “no” to something else. In this case, when Skip and Jean said “yes” to being married and co-creating (with God) children – a product of their marital embrace – they are saying “no” to spending all their vacation with a “bunch of guys” [or, in Jean's case, a “bunch of gals”].

One possible solution is for Jean and the children to rent the cabin right next to the guys' cabin. That way Skip could go fishing with the guys during the day. Jean and the children wouldn't have to cook because there would be enough fish to go around (something biblical about that thought), and in the evening when the other guys are drinking beer and playing cards, Skip could “skip” right over to Jean's cabin and spend some quality time with the family. Good idea, but we don't think Skip and the bunch of guys will bite on that hook!

– Tom and JoAnne Fogle

**E**ach generation questions the taste of those that follow, whether it be in hairstyles, clothing or even slang. If you got “jacketed” in the 1950s, that meant you were going steady. Close friends were “tight” in the 60s; and if you were very excited in the 1970s, you were “juiced!” No teen wanted to be “toast” in the '80s because it meant some kind of trouble, but, “Hey, dawg” was OK in the '90s – you were just being greeted as a friend! Now, if the subject of an e-mail is NSFP, that means “Not Safe for Parents” and they want to keep plans clear of your monitoring eyes!

If fads are always changing, can we just relax, knowing that our parents were just as dismayed by our behaviors? After all, when Elvis Presley appeared on Milton Berle's *Texaco Star Theater*, audiences were stunned and called him, “Elvis the Pelvis!” Or has a line been crossed?

### **What goes around, comes around – 1920s smudgers**

A smudger liked to dance closely! But recently, I observed high-school dancers who put smudgers to shame. Students formed a circle, hoping to hide couples in the middle from the eyes of the chaperones. The inner couples began to dance provocatively. School officials stopped the dancing and enforced the rule: Face to face with a little space. Schools across the nation confront this issue; many consider it a matter of changing styles. When the principal at John Glenn High School in Bay City, Mich., refused to allow this type of dancing, many parents were upset. As one mother said, “I understand that some forms of dancing are just what people do today.”

### **Purity of intention**

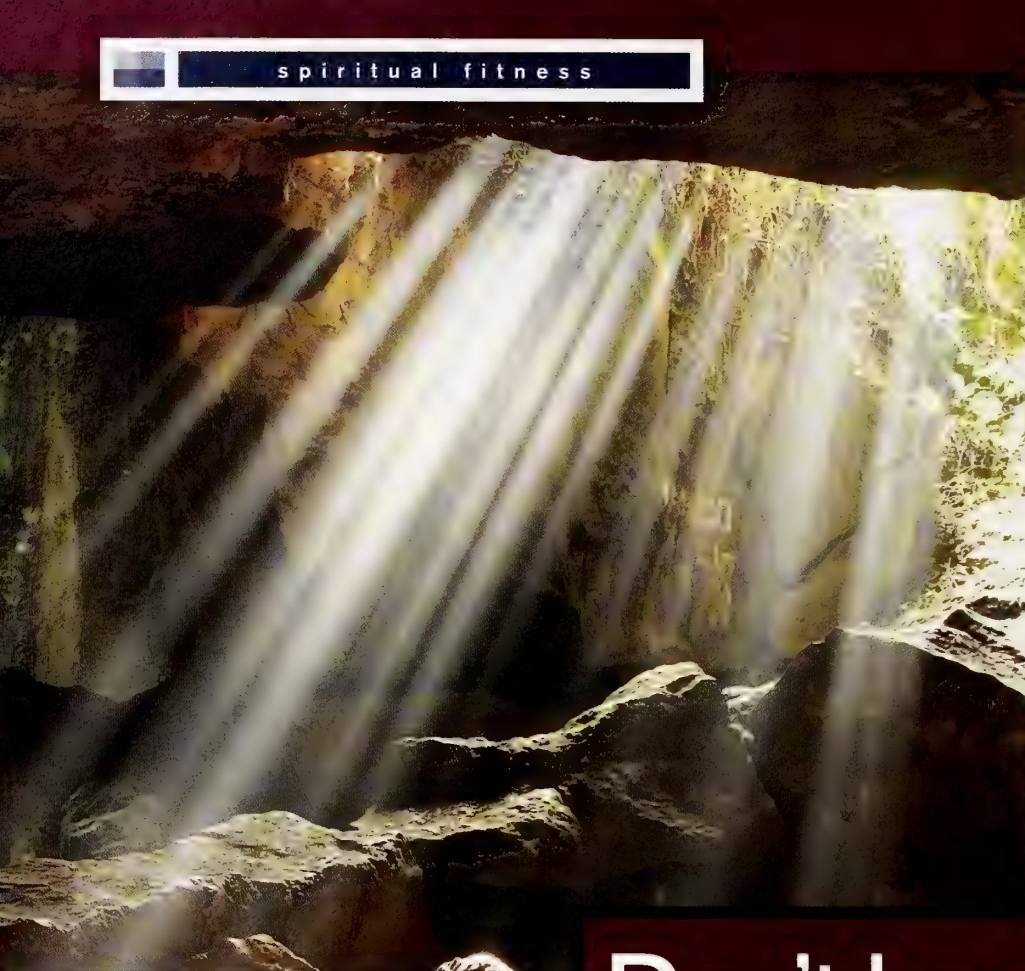
School dances are intended to bring together adolescents for fun, wholesome purposes; to enhance their social relationships and to build a sense of community within the school. As our catechism says, “Modesty inspires a way of life which makes it possible to resist the allurements of fashion and the pressure of prevailing ideologies.” (CCC 2523)

Do rules against dancing diminish a homecoming dance or a prom experience? No! What can we do as parents?

- **Encourage** schools to establish and enforce rules about appropriate behavior at dances.
- **Volunteer** as a chaperone and put your parenting skills into practice.
- **Talk** to your son or daughter about modesty.

In his address at St. Joseph Seminary, Pope Benedict XVI said, “Sometimes we are looked upon as people who speak only of prohibitions. Nothing could be further from the truth! Authentic Christian discipleship is marked by a sense of wonder. We stand before the God we know and love as a friend, the vastness of his creation, and the beauty of our Christian faith.” (Yonkers, April 19, 2008). – Dr. Cathleen McGreal





“I t sure is dark!” A group of us had descended into the caves and caverns in Pennsylvania and had gone past where lights could be found. For fun, at one point we decided to turn out our flashlights. The darkness was incredible and unnerving for those of us afraid of the dark or who were a bit claustrophobic. Closing your eyes brings you one kind of darkness.

You are not trying to see and do not expect to see. But if your eyes are wide open, and you are trying to see – trying to make out some small glimmer of light – and you cannot see the hand in front of your face, it is unnerving. It did not take us very long before we turned the lights back on. That initial burst of light was blinding! It was like God, who enters our lives as true light. The greatness of his light is so powerful, it can overwhelm and go beyond the senses. We have to grow accustomed to his radiance so we can take some of it in. We may experience a feeling of love and inner joy and consolation. We have a felt

sense of God’s presence. There are other times however, where we may experience the lights going out. God hides himself, so we may seek him more. Both are times of purification and growth, and yet the greater measure comes to us underneath the shadow of the cross.

Many years ago, I found myself in a dark place. I was not sure exactly what was going on, but I had a sense that it was important. On the bright side, I had recently experienced an awakening of my faith. God became very real for me. It is not that prior to this I did not believe in God, rather I experienced God as more

distant. The truth was that it was I who was distant! But God helped me to know that he was in my life and I found it an incredible experience. I felt as if the love of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit had been poured out on me. I started to love the Church. I started to appreciate the gift of faith. It was a time of great hunger for God and consolation for my soul.

It lasted for a while, but then a funny thing happened. I was cut off from many things in a short period of time. I left my home, my familiar work, my students, my close friends, the beautiful East Coast and Baltimore that I enjoyed and moved out to Michigan, where I knew no one. All the things that my life had focused on were gone! As good as some of them were, there was need for a reordering and even a removal of many things from my heart. There was also a repentance of sin and evil habits. I was forced by the

move to let go of many things and confront things. I was, at the same time, being drawn more to God. God was saying, “What do you really want? Those things or me?” Those other things were good, but were

not God. God’s consolations would come at various times – to help with the walk of faith to let go, to repent, to convert. At times prayer was full of consolation, but other times dry and difficult. That period of time for me was a time of intense purification. It continues.

God is always refining us; each day, the Lord calls us to grow in deeper faith, trust, hope, and the love of God and neighbor.

Sometimes, a person might be tempted to think that he has blown it somehow. It is true that sin and lukewarmness can bring about spiritual darkness. One loses a sense of God in one’s life. But usually when that happens, there is a dullness in desire for God. There is a real regression in the journey to God. Sickness or emotional depression or other kinds of anxiety also can affect a person’s spiritual life. Those are trials over which we have

## Don’t be afraid of the dark

### Seeing the light of Christ



no control, so it is important to be patient and do the best one can to pray and remain faithful to God.

There are other times, however, that something more seems to be going on. God has led us to a place that seems dark. The shadow of the cross looms ahead of us and has blotted out consolation. We have lost a feeling of inner comfort and a sense of his presence. Prayer can be dry.

Fortunately, God has given us many great saints who have gone up the mountain and have thrown us some ropes! St. John of the Cross is one of the best in describing this ascent to God. St. John was a doctor of the Church, and wrote brilliantly about the spiritual journey. He talked about something that upon first hearing was a bit intimidating – “the dark night.” Now, if you are like me, there is tendency to run away from things that seem dark

**God is always refining us; each day, the Lord calls us to grow in deeper faith, trust, hope and love of God and neighbor.**

or difficult. But St. John in coining that phrase was simply putting into words what believers in Jesus Christ have experienced during their journey to God. It is what we all go through. It is the paradox of the Gospel. It is the paschal mystery. “Whoever desires to be my disciple must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the Gospel will save it.” (Mk 8:34-35)

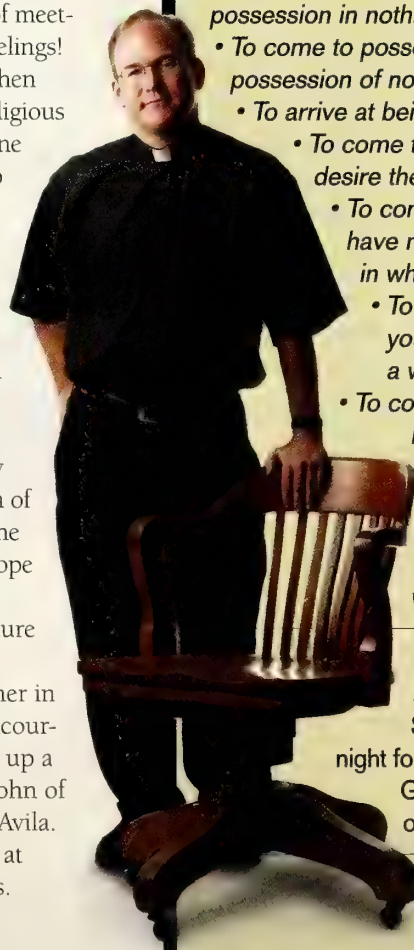
St. John wrote from experience. He had begun a reform of the Carmelite Order along with St. Teresa of Avila. There was resistance to this reform and, on one occasion, John was taken into custody by some of his fellow monks, who did not approve of his ideas. He was put into a very small room with only one small slit for a window and lived in that darkness during the freezing cold of winter or stifling heat of summer. His brothers would make him kneel down for his meals in

the refectory and afterward would give him “the discipline,” which amounted to hitting him with a whip while he prayed Psalm 51. These beatings were, at times, severe enough to cause wounds and scars. While in this state of desolation, removed from all that could give him comfort and support, John was given the gift to describe his inner life with God in the form of a poem, *The Spiritual Canticle*. He described the incredible purifying love of God and the painful purification that he called “the dark night.” John distinguished two kinds of dark nights. One was of the senses, and the other of the soul.

The dark nights are a gift meant to purify us of all attachments that are not of God. God loves us too much to keep us where sin will afflict us. God is a jealous lover, and wants us for himself. Our sense attachments – feeling, tasting, smelling, seeing, hearing, and even the internal ones of imagination, memory and desire or will – all get purified through the dark nights. For a simple example: Sometimes we pray because we like the feelings we get in prayer more than praying for the sake of meeting God. God is not our feelings! You can see this happen when people keep looking for religious experiences and go from one prayer meeting or group to another, or one retreat to another looking for the spiritual high. In the dark night, God withdraws those sensible feelings in order to help the person grow in faith and love.

We can cooperate with God's help. We can identify sin and pray for conversion of heart. We can practice all the virtues – especially faith, hope and love.

Because of the deep nature of this subject, it really is impossible to go any further in a short article. I would encourage all the readers to pick up a copy of the works of St. John of the Cross or St. Teresa of Avila. They are readily available at most Catholic book stores.



## spiritual exercise

### Exercises for this month

**1 Dark Night of Elijah.** Read and meditate on Elijah's story. 1 Kings 18, 19 and 2 Kings 2:1-12. Ask yourself how God revealed his presence to him, and how did God lead him to a deeper faith and trust? What happened in the end to Elijah?



**2 Meditate on the following passages from St. John of the Cross *Reflection from The Ascent of Mount Carmel Book I, Ch. 13, No 11 and No 6*.** Think of where sacred Scripture teaches the same thing.

- To reach satisfaction in all, desire its possession in nothing.
- To come to possess all, desire the possession of nothing.
- To arrive at being all, desire to be nothing.
- To come to the knowledge of all, desire the knowledge of nothing.
- To come to the pleasure you have not, you must go by a way in which you enjoy not.
- To come to the knowledge you have not, you must go by a way in which you know not.
- To come to the possession you have not, you must go by a way in which you possess not.
- To come to be what you are not, you must go by a way in which you are not.

**3 Reflect on Jesus' life** and when Scriptures reveal a dark night for our Lord. Pray to desire God alone and the fulfillment of His Will in your life.

– Father Bill Ashbaugh



# STOCK GIFTS

**W**e have improved our website to facilitate your obtaining required information to make a stock donation to the Diocese of Raleigh. Our stock donation instruction form (including our current account number) is available on our website at:

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

Once on the website homepage, select "Philanthropy."

The stock donation form is located in the "Other Ways to Give" section of the "Philanthropy Overview."

Please fully complete the two page form and provide it directly to your broker to execute your transaction.

We can not execute transactions on your behalf. In addition, please send a copy of the completed form to the Diocese at the address listed on the form.

If you have any difficulty obtaining the form from the website or have any questions, please contact:

Gary Lambert • (919) 821-9722 • [lambert@raldioc.org](mailto:lambert@raldioc.org)

# get ignited!

Come hear these great Catholic speakers

**Immaculée Ilibagiza**

**Tim Staples**

**Joseph Pearce**

**Ignited By Truth Catholic Conference**  
**February 13-14, 2009**  
**RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER**

*Bringing to light the truth of the teachings of the Catholic Church and igniting in our hearts a love for our Faith*

For complete details and online registration, visit:

**[www.IgnitedByTruth.com](http://www.IgnitedByTruth.com)**

## Live the life you love.

When you're in control, opportunities abound. At Pennybyrn at Maryfield, you're free to create a lifestyle that's inspiring, stimulating and filled with exciting new opportunities— **in a new community bundled with years of credibility.** It's a carefree, comfortable approach to healthy retirement living where you can continue to make memories, as well as a splash!

Visit us today, or call (336) 821-4050  
or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



**PENNYBYRN**  
at MARYFIELD

A Retirement Living Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

109 Penny Road, High Point, NC 27260



MAG/NCC/10-08





## Death of Sister Marie Therese Bugge, O.S.U.

► Sister Marie Therese Bugge, O.S.U., former Pastoral Administrator at Holy Family Catholic Church, Hillsborough, died on Thursday, Oct. 16, 2008, surrounded by the prayers and presence of the Ursuline Sisters. Sister Marie retired from Holy Family Parish in Hillsborough in 2004 after nine years of service in the Diocese. Her Mass of Christian Burial was held at the Ursuline Province Center Chapel in New Rochelle, N.Y. In lieu of flowers, the sisters requested a donation to the Ursuline Retirement Fund, 1338 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10804.



## Diocesan Students Attend Back to Earth Weekend

► More than 350 students participated in "Back to Earth," the Diocesan-wide camp-out for youth in grades 9-12. The weekend event was held at Short Journey Center in Smithfield.

This fall's theme was "Come to the Feast" and featured as key-note Paul Kotlowski, the youth ministry coordinator for the Diocese of Charlotte. His talk was on the Year of St. Paul. Sessions this year included "Road to Damascus: Conversations of Paul"; "Faith Feud," a game-show style workshop where students tested their knowledge of the faith; and "Vocations," presented by Father Bernard Shlesinger, Diocesan Director of Vocations, and Sister Laura Teresa Downing, IHM-Immaculata.

Father David D. Brockman, Vicar General of the Diocese, celebrated Mass for the students and blessed a newly constructed Prayer Garden, which has as its center the Stations of the Cross. The garden was made possible by an anonymous donor and aided by donors to the "Next 150 Searches Fund," along with donations made at various Diocesan youth events.



## St. Michael School to Host Jolly Elf Trail Run

► On Dec. 13, St. Michael's School will host the third Annual Jolly Elf Trail Run at Bond Park in Cary. The event includes a competitive 5K, a One Mile Fun

Run and a Kid's 200-Yard Dash. The sponsors are expecting over 600 runners this year. The holiday-themed event includes a DJ, announcer, snacks, cheering elves and the sound of bells ringing as the runners make their way through the park.

The 5K main event follows paved and gentle hilly trails of scenic Bond Park, in the heart of Cary. The course is mostly hard-packed wood chips and grass with some pavement between trails. Good footing exists throughout the entire course. The One Mile Fun Run course is a generally flat jaunt through mostly open areas adjacent to the scenic woods of Bond Park. This Fun Run enjoys similar good footing consisting mostly of hard-packed wood chips, and grass with some pavement between trails. Walkers are welcome too. The 200 Yard Kid's Dash is a blast on the grass...all the little ones enjoy.

## Statement of Ownership

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)			Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation	
1. Publication Title NC Catholics		2. Publication Number 7 1 5 - 9 4 0		3. Filing Date October 9, 2008
4. Issue Frequency Monthly: Except combined issues during January/February and May/June		5. Number of Issues Published Annually 10		6. Annual Subscription Price \$16.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 715 Nazareth Street Raleigh, NC 27606				Contact Person Holly Stringer Telephone (include area code) 919.821.9730
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) Same as above				
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Bishop Michael F. Burbidge Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606 Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Richard Reece Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606 Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Frank Morock, Director of Communications Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606				
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)				
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address		
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None				
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address		
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)				
PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 1 of 3) (Instructions Page 3) PSN 7530-01-000-9031 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy at www.usps.com				
13. Publication Title NC Catholics		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below September, 2008		
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation All Registered Households		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months		No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		70,800		72,000
(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)		68,391		67,895
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)				
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)				
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®				
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail®)				
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		68,391		67,895
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)				
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541				
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541				
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)				
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		1,380		1,350
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), and (4))		1,380		1,350
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		69,771		69,245
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page 63))		524		630
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		70,295		69,875
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		98%		98%
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the November 2008 issue of this publication <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required				
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Richard Reece, Editor				Date October 9, 2008
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).				
PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)				





is one reason St. Bernadette is hoping to expand in the future. Classes that once met in the parish house moved to the garage of the house, and an all-purpose building with classrooms and meeting space is sorely needed.

Just down the road from St. Bernadette is the Butner Federal Correction Complex, and prison ministry has long been a special

## "People find a home here"

**St. Bernadette, Butner**

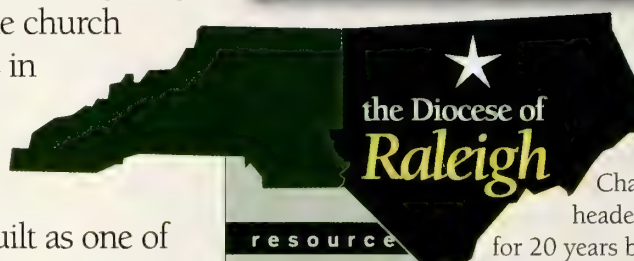
**W**hen parishioners of St. Bernadette in Butner gathered in September for their parish's 50th anniversary, they celebrated in the same church

where the first members attended Mass in 1958 on the 100th anniversary of the apparitions at Lourdes. But tradition has it that Mass was celebrated in the church as early as 1942, when it was built as one of three chapels for Camp Butner, the Army base which, those days, *was* the town. The base included a POW camp, and the solid construction and workmanship of St. Bernadette is due in some measure to the skills of German prisoners of war who helped build it.

Sister Carol Loughney, IHM, is Pastoral Administrator of St. Bernadette. Father J. Paul Byron provides priestly ministry. When Sister Carol arrived in 1999, a typical Sunday crowd at Mass was around 20 souls. Today the parish includes 250 registered families, and many more unregistered. "People find a home here," Sister Carol says. "They come and they want to stay." The parish draws members from the communities of Butner, Stem, Creedmore, northern Durham and southern

Oxford. There are probably more Hispanic families than Anglos all told, and all ages are represented. "A wonderful thing," Sister Carol says, "is that our parishioners like doing things together." Members of various cultures collaborated on the anniversary celebration, sing in the combined choir, and help with the annual town festival. And the many children in the parish receive religious education together.

The explosive growth of the religious education program



priority of the parish. Parishioner Mike

Chamberlain headed that ministry for 20 years before retiring.

Today a team of 25, including Deacon Bert L'Homme, Father Tom Tully and Father Art Kirwin, OP, leads Liturgies of the Word and brings Eucharist to those in the complex.

Sister Carol praises the talents and generosity of her diverse congregation. She also expresses gratitude to Sacred Heart Parish in Pinehurst, officially a "sister parish" to St. Bernadette for six years and a continuing source of support when it's needed.

At note at the end of St. Bernadette's 50th anniversary program reads: "Our celebration today is enriched throughout by the different languages of our parishioners who grew up in many cultures. We believe this inclusion is a pleasing offering to God and best represents who we are as a community of faith."

### resource

**St. Bernadette  
Butner, NC**

**804 West D St.  
Butner, NC  
27509**

**919.575.4744**



## things to do:

### Priesthood Discernment

**Group, 9 a.m. – noon** at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 219 Edenton St., Raleigh, N.C. Adult Catholic men between the ages of 17-48 discerning a possible call to priesthood are invited to the Priesthood Discernment Group meetings held on the third Saturday of each month. If you are just beginning to contemplate a vocation or are more serious about a call to priesthood please consider attending this group. The Priesthood Discernment Group provides a fraternal environment in which to discuss your discernment of a possible call to priesthood with other men who are also examining the call. The group discusses issues central to the call and does so within the context of prayer, presentations, and discussion. The morning begins with Mass. Coffee and doughnuts will be available in the Office of Vocations (two doors down from the Cathedral) after Mass. Morning Prayer, a discussion/presentation about discernment/priesthood, Daytime

Prayer, and lunch follow. For more information contact the Vocations Office, 919.832.6279.

### Scriptural Themes of Advent,

a three week Online Seminar from Catholic Distance University, runs Nov. 24-Dec. 15. Participants will prepare for Christmas by examining the reading from the prophet Isaiah and the Gospels which tell us about redemption. Instructor: Fr. Bevil Bramwell, OMI. Cost: \$139. Register online at [www.cdu.edu](http://www.cdu.edu) or by phone at 1.888.254.4CDU. Registration Deadline: Nov. 19.

### Vocations Prayer Group for Women,

7-9 p.m., Nov. 20, at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 219 Edenton St., Raleigh, N.C.. Single Catholic women between the ages of 17-45 who are committed to praying for vocations, growing in holiness while in the midst of the world, and discerning the call of Christ are invited to the Vocations Prayer Group for Women. Thursday evening

meetings will begin in Sacred Heart Cathedral with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7 p.m. followed by Benediction. At 8 p.m. the group will move to the Office of Vocations for fellowship and discussions. Meetings should end by 9 p.m. Contact Fr. Ned Shlesinger, [vocations@raldioc.org](mailto:vocations@raldioc.org). Next Vocations Prayer Group for Women Dec. 18, same time and place.

**Connections, Nov. 21-23,** Trinity Center, West Fort Macon Road, Salter Path, N.C.. Connections is a weekend retreat for 9th- and 10th-grade youth. Often referred to as the best-kept secret in Youth Ministry, this retreat focuses on community building, spiritual growth, self-esteem and relationships with family, friends and God. The retreat involves low ropes courses and other physical challenge activities. Cost: \$105 youth/adults. Next Connections retreat is March 27-29, 2009, at Camp Kanata, Wake Forest. For more information contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or [Hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:Hagarty@raldioc.org).

**Retiro de Segunda Etapa Jóvenes Carismáticos, El Fin de Semana del 28-30 de Noviembre** "Retiro de Crecimiento y Compromiso" en la Parroquia María Reina de las Américas.

**National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry (NCCYM), Dec. 4-7,** Cleveland, Ohio. Come join thousands of adult youth ministers from across the country for networking, formation and celebration. This biennial conference is sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (sponsors of the National Catholic Youth Conference) and is the largest Catholic Conference for adult Catholic Youth Ministers in the country. Cost: \$245 conference fee (travel not included). For more information contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or [Hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:Hagarty@raldioc.org).

### Search for Christian Maturity #153, Dec. 12-14,

Short Journey Center, 2323 Cleveland Road, Smithfield, N.C.. Search is a weekend retreat for 11th- and 12th-grade youth. Activities encourage self-discovery and reflection on relationships with others and with God. This is a peer-led retreat as the Search "team" is made up of other teens. These past Searchers model leadership, faith sharing, and ministry with their peers. Adults in youth ministry also attend and participate in Search. Searches usually fill up quickly, so sign up for the earliest date possible to ensure yourself a space. Cost: \$105 youth/adults. Next dates: Feb. 6-8, 2009; March 20-22, 2009. For more information contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or [Hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:Hagarty@raldioc.org).

### Secular Franciscan Order St. Anthony of Padua

**Fraternity** meets after Holy Hour and 6:15 pm Mass at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Fayetteville on the second Wednesday of every month for Formation. It meets on the third Wednesday for Fraternity meeting at 7 p.m. in the Juan Diego room located at the St. Patrick's office building. Men and women are welcome to come and inquire. We are followers of St. Francis who live in the world and attempt to follow the Gospel by serving the poor and our community. For more information contact: Ray Miller 910.425.2264, John Reichart 910.425.5135 or Mary Johnson 910.484.9876.

### 59th Annual Harvest Day Barbecue and Bazaar, Sat.,

Nov. 22, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, 211 Irwin Drive, Newton Grove, N.C. 28366. Barbecued chicken or barbecued pork, \$7 per plate, eat in or take out. Auction at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit church projects.

### Upcoming events at Avila Retreat Center

711 Mason Road, Durham 27712. To register or for more information, call 919.477.1285.

#### ►► An Ignatian Advent Experience, 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 5, to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. In the spirit of St. Ignatius of Loyola, this silent retreat will invite the participants into the Annunciation, Visitation and Nativity of Our Lord through prayer periods of Ignatian Contemplation. Presenter: Barbara Gaddy is currently the Associate Director of Development for the Diocese of Charlotte. Her responsibilities include promoting stewardship as a way of life – a way of life that focuses on stewardship of time in prayer. She is a member of NC Ignatian Companions, serving for three years as the lay leader of the group, and has directed many Ignatian retreat experiences in the Diocese of Charlotte. Donation: \$95.

#### ►► Advent Spirituality Day, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec.

9. In the midst of our hectic schedules and constant busyness, God waits patiently for us. During the season of Advent, we strive to focus on preparing for the greatest of gifts, Jesus. This day we will slow purposefully, surrender our impatience and seek a deeper trust in God's Divine plan. Presenter: Joan S. Rose, MPS, Director of Faith Formation, Our Lady of Lourdes Church. A Master Catechist in the Diocese of Raleigh, she offers spiritual retreats, workshops and parish missions. Donation: \$30.







Christine Sulzen and Ursula Ruiz, co-founders of Ignited by Truth.

## Diocese to Collaborate in Ignited by Truth 2009

►► Seven years ago, the preparation for the first Ignited by Truth (IBT) Catholic Conference was short, quick and intense; it was a flurry of emails and phone calls and pleas for speakers, volunteers and donations that culminated in a literal flurry of snow and ice as more than 650 braved the weather and streamed into Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh.

The intervening years have not lowered either the intensity or the excitement levels of the primary organizers, Christine Sulzen of Apex and Ursula Ruiz of Raleigh. The mission remains the same: To bring to light the truth of the teachings of the Catholic Church and to ignite in the hearts of the attendees a renewed love for the faith. But preparation begins earlier and is more streamlined; it consists of Excel spreadsheets and expandable file folders, official letterhead and steps of systematic progress.

But for the 2009 conference, Sulzen and Ruiz are preparing for the greatest changes yet. This year, the Diocese of Raleigh is assisting in the planning. And because the conference has outgrown its high school locale, the preparation this year includes moving to a new venue at the Convention Center in downtown Raleigh.

And there's a new target for attendance, up from the 1,200 at the last conference: 3,200 souls.

The 2009 conference is scheduled for Feb. 13-14. Speakers thus far include:

- Immaculee Ilibagiza, "Story of Faith,

Hope and Forgiveness" – Ilibagiza, a native Rwandan, survived her nation's genocide by hiding in a pastor's bathroom for 91 days. She lost most of her family, but she survived to share the story and her miraculous transition into forgiveness and a profound relationship with God. She is the author of *Left to Tell*.

- Joseph Pearce, "The Evangelizing Power of Beauty" – 20 years ago, Pearce was a radical activist, a skin-head, and the editor of two hate-filled, extremist magazines. Today the English-born author of several best-selling biographies of great 19th- and 20th-century Christian authors is a professor of literature at Ave Maria University in Naples, Fla.

- Tim Staples, "Catholics and the Culture War" – Raised Southern Baptist and a former youth minister in an Assembly of God community, Staples converted to Catholicism in 1988 and works in Catholic apologetics and evangelization.

Bishop Michael Burbidge will celebrate the conference's closing Mass at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday. "This event is an opportunity for the faithful of our Diocese to join together in prayer, worship, and catechesis," said Bishop Burbidge. "The invited speakers are known for their loyal commitment to the Church and Her teaching and will offer a variety of formation activities that will inspire and educate. I am confident that the conference, with God's grace, will yield abundant blessings and I urge as many people as possible from our Diocese to attend."

## In the beginning

Each year, about 40 percent of the conference attendees are newcomers. In their emails and mailings Ruiz and Sulzen highlight this evangelizing component of IBT by asking, "Who will you invite this year?"

IBT's original incarnation was as a conference for homeschoolers. It evolved into IBT as plans for the homeschool conference fell through, but Ruiz and Sulzen – casual acquaintances at the time – joined forces and persevered after concluding that the conference was not meant to be for homeschoolers only; it was supposed to be for everyone.

"It was almost like we were holding hands and jumping off a cliff," said Sulzen. "The pressure was incredible, but the zeal for souls kept us going."

They had just over 100 days to plan and no idea how many people would show up. The 650 who came made it clear that there was a hunger for the conference's mission, a love and desire for the Church and her teachings.

Despite growing family responsibilities – Ruiz is the mother of three, Sulzen of five. Both mothers homeschool, and both are active in their parishes – they still feel called to serve. "That's what we were called to do, so God gives us the time," said Ruiz. "He makes time, so you're not as tired when you stay up to 2 a.m."

As IBT joins the Diocese's lineup of spiritual and formational activities, it also gives the conference a wider pool for participants. Sister Rose Marie Adams, I.H.M., Director of Evangelization and Catechesis, said that the Diocese is promoting IBT through parish faith formation directors and at large gatherings like the Emmaus Conference and at a conference of Catholic school teachers.

"The Diocese offers many opportunities to grow in our faith and our love of Jesus Christ – conferences, workshops and retreat days," said Sister Rose Marie. Ignited by Truth, she said, is one more way that people of the diocese can "live, love and practice their faith."

The women view IBT as a gift to the Diocese. "We want it to be self-sustaining," said Ruiz. "We want to encourage the endorsement and support of the

By Dana Lorelle



# use your **IRA** as never before: to make a **gift** to the **Catholic Church**

**The Tax Extenders and Alternative Minimum Tax Relief Act of 2008 offers a welcome incentive to donors who want to use the money in their IRAs to make charitable gifts.**

**How the Law Works:** The IRA rollover provision allows charitable distributions of up to \$100,000 from an IRA or a Roth IRA to be excluded from your gross income. In addition, the amount rolled over will count against a donor's minimum distribution requirement. As in previous versions of IRA rollover legislation, there is no federal income tax deduction available for these contributions in addition to their exclusion from income.

**How to Make a Gift:** Contact your IRA custodian to transfer your desired gift amount to the Catholic Church.

## **Example On How The Law Works:**

Pat, aged 80, has \$450,000 in an IRA and has pledged to give \$75,000 to her church this year. If Pat transfers \$75,000 from the IRA, she will avoid paying income tax on that amount. She cannot, however, claim a charitable deduction—it is a pure “wash.” Pat has found an easy way to benefit her church without tax complications. If she desires, Pat could give more than \$100,000 because the legislation allows a maximum \$100,000 gift in both the 2008 and 2009 tax years. If her spouse has an IRA and is 70-1/2 or older, he can also give up to \$100,000 each year.

**You may contribute funds this way if:**

- You are age 70-1/2 or older
- The gift is \$100,000 or less each year
- You make the gift on or before Dec. 31, 2009
- You transfer funds directly from an IRA or Rollover IRA to the charity
- You transfer the gift outright to one or more public charities; rollovers to a planned gift, such as a gift annuity or a charitable remainder trust, do not qualify.



**For more information or to receive a sample letter to send to your IRA administrator, please call the Office of Stewardship & Development at (919) 821-9721 or send an email to: [mike.pedley@raldioc.org](mailto:mike.pedley@raldioc.org)**  
**You may also write to: Diocese of Raleigh  
715 Nazareth St. Raleigh, NC 27606.**

**Visit our Web Site: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.**

Diocese, yet maintain the support and involvement of the laity.”

To appeal to the broadest demographic of Catholics, Ruiz and Sulzen look for speakers in diverse areas, such as conversion, apologetics, holiness, faith in action, and a topic appealing to parents, such as a discussion of *Theology of the Body*.

“We pray over the list of potential speakers,” said Sulzen, “and see what gifts they have and how they fit into the mission. We let God lead the way.”

It helps that they have a known entity; IBT has garnered national attention, and with names like George Weigel, Patrick Madrid and Janet Smith on their past rosters, it has become easier to approach other important figures in Catholic culture with invitations.

Pearce will open this year's conference at 9 a.m. Saturday. A teen track will run concurrently. Throughout the day, ministry booths and Catholic vendors will display materials and items for sale.

As always, a free Friday evening program is open to everyone and will feature Tim Staples and Joseph Pearce, the for-

mer addressing “Why be Catholic?” and the latter sharing his story in “Race with the Devil: From Racial Hatred to the Love of Christ.” Saturday afternoon students 10 and older are welcome to participate in special student breakout sessions.

If the conference touches just one soul, Ruiz and Sulzen said, it is worth it.

They have faced challenges before, such as ice storms and flat tires, injuries and last-minute crises. They have always turned to their faith for restoration and inspiration. Charged with increasing the attendance so significantly, they are encouraging their supporters more than ever to “storm heaven” and to “pray and sacrifice and share resources.”

They claim, perhaps not so jokingly, that no laundry gets done in their household between Thanksgiving and February. They rely on a network of volunteers, many of whom have been involved since the very first days, and on supportive husbands, families and friends.

“It's incredible,” said Ruiz. “Of everyone involved, they all have bigger job responsibilities, more apostolate, all the families

have more children — yet they still feel called to serve Ignited by Truth.”

They don't talk about their involvement with Ignited by Truth without pointing to all the souls behind the scenes, the more than 200 volunteers who have helped with every conference and who do everything from baking cookies to setting up chairs and driving speakers to and from the airport. Especially critical are the many priests who have supported and attended IBT to hear confessions and celebrate Mass.

Through it all, Ruiz and Sulzen said that their faith and their love of the Church assures them that they are where God wants them to be, doing what God wants them to do. When they find they are worried about money, money arrives. When they need help, help comes.

At such moments, said Ruiz, “It's like God saying ‘Go.’”

“There are people who could do a far better job,” said Ruiz. “There are people who could be far more organized, who know the speakers, who could do a far better job running an event. We just do it out of a love for Christ.”



OF THE TARHEEL APOSTLES



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH  
www.raleighvocations.org OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

[www.raleighvocations.org](http://www.raleighvocations.org)



CHAPEL HILL NC 27514



THE MAGAZINE  
OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN EASTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA

DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

# NCCatholic

December 2008

\$2.00

www.NCCatholics.org



## O Come, Emmanuel, Sun of Justice!

Advent and Christmas remind N.C. Catholics  
to sustain, protect and reverence human life

- The Gospel of Life, Continued
- Catholic Parish Outreach expands its charitable services



**T**hroughout the Sacred Season of Advent, on Christmas and throughout the Christmas Season, Sacred Scripture points us to the One whose birth has forever transformed us and our world. Jesus Christ is the One alone who saves us and allows us to share in His very life both now and forever.

The words from one of the forms of the Act of Penitence of the Mass also assist us in understanding the identity of the Christ Child: *Lord Jesus, You are mighty God and Prince of peace; Lord Jesus, You are Son of God and Son of Mary; and, Lord Jesus, You are Word made flesh and splendor of the Father.*

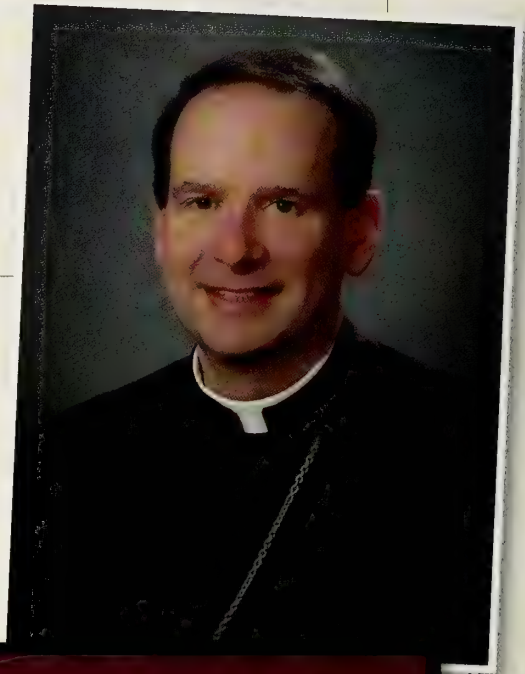
*Lord Jesus, You are mighty God and Prince of peace.* God sent His Son into the world to take away our sins, to bring us peace and to show us how to live in harmony with one another. If you are burdened by sin, guilt or shame, celebrate the Lord's infinite mercy and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance. In His loving embrace, you will know a peace the world cannot give. If you are clinging to bitterness or resentment, forgive others as the Lord has forgiven you. Only when we are in harmony with one another can we know the genuine peace of the Lord. At a time when our world experiences turmoil and witnesses so much violence, we find our hope in the God who has power over all that is evil. With renewed faith, we entrust our lives and the needs of our world to His care.

*Lord Jesus, You are Son of God and Son of Mary.* Jesus Christ is true God and true man. He is Son of the eternal Father, divine like His Father in heaven. He is also Son of the Virgin Mary, human like His mother and like us. The Child is one person. He has two natures, divine and human. He is the Mediator between God and His people. We must renew our commitment, in the midst of the demands of life, to spend time in humble adoration of Jesus, for He is the Son of God. We must be convinced that in His humanity He identifies with us and all that we experience. Thus, with renewed confidence we constantly turn to Him, especially in our time of need, and also seek the intercession of His Mother, asking her to protect us.

*Lord Jesus, You are Word made flesh and splendor of the Father.* According to God's plan, Jesus was conceived in an extraordinary way by the power of the Holy Spirit. In becoming flesh, He reveals the dignity of every person. He proclaims and teaches that all human life is to be revered and all persons, regardless of race or ethnic background, religion, culture or worldly titles, are to be treated with dignity and respect. Christmas means that every life is sacred. Christmas challenges us to reflect this belief. I am in awe of the countless ways people throughout our Diocese respond to this call. I am deeply inspired by the great outreach to the unborn, the vulnerable, the sick and suffering, the prisoner, the hungry, the poor, the homeless and all those in need. In addition to such acts of generosity and compassion, I invite you to participate in the events throughout the month of January celebrating the sacredness of all human life, especially the Rally for Life in Raleigh (Jan. 17) and the Mass and March for Life in Washington, D.C. (Jan. 22). More than ever, our world needs this public witness and example!

In word and deed may we reflect our belief that the Christ Child is *Mighty God and Prince of peace, Son of God and Son of Mary, and Word made flesh and the splendor of the Father.* And, may you and your families know His abundant blessings in this Sacred Season and always!

— Most Reverend Michael E. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh



## What Child Is This?



# O Come, Emmanuel, Sun of Justice!

local news

## The Gospel of Life, Continued

cover story

### "I Was Hungry and You Fed Me"

►► At 9:30 on a Monday morning in December, the parking lot outside the new Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) Food Pantry on North Raleigh Boulevard is full, and a long line has already formed at the front door. The economy is faltering and the holidays are approaching, and the lines swell with men and women who never expected to be here.

el hispano Católico

## 18 el hispano Católico

►► Tenía hambre y me diste de comer

— Rich Reece

## 20 Querido lector de NCC

►► Dear NCC: Ciencia y Religión: ¿Enemigos?

— El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk

## 21 Obispo Burbidge

►► ¿Quién es este niño?

— Obispo Michael F. Burbidge

# inside

what you'll get out of this issue

### from the Bishop

2 What Child Is This?

— Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

### since you asked ...

8 Are Science and Religion Really Enemies?

— Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk

### from the editor

9 Conception, Birth and Death in December

— Rich Reece

### theology 101

10 A love letter from God — that's what we receive in Sacred Scripture

— Sr. Maria Faustina Showalter, O.P., Sr. John Mary Corbett, O.P., Sr. Maria Gemma Martek, O.P., and Sr. Elizabeth Ann O'Reilly, O.P.

### saint of the month

12 St. Lucy

### voices in our church

13 Black Catholic Month

— Msgr. Thomas Hadden

13 Carta al Niño Jesús

— Padre Fernando Torres

### your marriage matters

22 He says: We're going to Paris — let's plan!  
She says: Can't we just 'wing it'?

— Tom and JoAnne Fogle

### money tip

23 How can I afford to send my kids to college?

### parenting journey

23 Dealing with disaster

— Dr. Cathleen McGreal

### spiritual fitness

24 Praying for others

Why do we do it? How do we do it?

— Father Bill Ashbaugh

### parish profile

28 Harbor of Catholic Hospitality  
Holy Family, Elizabeth City

— Rich Reece



# NC Catholics

The Magazine of the Catholic Church  
in Eastern North Carolina

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
PUBLISHER

Frank Morock  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

December 2008 • Vol. 4 : Issue 10

Richard Reece  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Holly Stringer  
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
Msgr. Thomas Hadden  
Father Tad Pacholczyk  
Father Fernando Torres  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Nathalie Fuerst  
TRANSLATOR

Denmark Photo and Video (cover)  
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

FAITH Publishing Service

Rev. Dwight Ezop  
CHAIRMAN

Patrick M. O'Brien  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Elizabeth Martin Solsburg  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

Vicki Bedard  
DIRECTOR OF SALES AND MARKETING

Jillane Job  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Patricia Oliver  
SECRETARY

Patrick Dally  
ART DIRECTOR

Lynne Ridenour  
GRAPHIC DESIGNER/WEB MASTER

Janna Stellwag  
Abby Wieber  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Derek Melot  
PROOFREADING

Father Bill Ashbaugh  
JoAnne and Tom Fogle  
Father Joe Krupp  
Dr. Cathleen McGreal  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

InnerWorkings  
PRINT MANAGEMENT

NC Catholics™ (USPS 715-940) is a membership publication of the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. Published Monthly except for February and June. Subscription rates are \$16 per year. Individual issues are \$2.00. Advertising inquiries, subscription requests and address changes can be sent to 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606; 919.821.9700; fax 919.821.9705 or e-mail ncc@raldioc.org. Periodicals Postage Paid at Raleigh, NC or additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: NC Catholics, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. ©2005 FAITH Publishing Service™ Catholic Diocese of Lansing. ©2005 Catholic Diocese of Raleigh provided content. No portion of NC Catholics may be published, broadcast, rewritten or otherwise reproduced or distributed in whole or in part, without prior written authority of FAITH Publishing Service™ and/or Diocese of Raleigh. For reprint information or other questions regarding use of copyright material, contact NC Catholics, Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Give the gift of  
NC Catholics:

Order a subscription today  
919.821.9730

O Come, Emmanuel, **Sun of Justice!**

## The Gospel of Life, Continued

Part Two in Bishop's Lecture Series  
to focus on the sanctity of human life

►► "Why is human life sacred, and why does the Church proclaim it?" The seasons of Advent and Christmas, as Catholics anticipate and celebrate the Child Jesus, remind us in a special way of the sanctity of human life. Dr. Robert Hambourger, Associate Professor of Philosophy at North Carolina State University, will address that topic on Jan. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Peter Catholic Church in Greenville as Part Two in the Bishop's Lecture Series 2008-2009.

The Series began in September 2008 with a presentation by Dr. John Haas, President of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, on the nature and formation of Catholic Conscience. Dr. Jacques Mistrot, who organized the Series, explained that one of its goals was to attract members of the medical community and educate them on Catholic teaching concerning medical/ethical issues. For that reason the three presentations were scheduled, respectively, in Raleigh, Greenville and Chapel Hill.

"There's a lot of confusion on these issues," Dr. Mistrot said. "We get mixed messages via the media or from friends, and these are important issues we face every day of our lives. They are also emotional issues, since they often involve loved ones, and they may arise in a hospital setting where we're unable to seek advice or education on Catholic teaching."

Dr. Hambourger's presentation will be in two parts, the first on the Sanctity of Human Life and

the second on Abortion, and society's devaluation of that life. In an interview with *NC Catholics*, Dr. Hambourger spoke of the essential goodness and importance of our Creator's gift of life. "We need to realize that God loves each life," he said, "that each life is tremendously important to Him."

"And human life doesn't lose that value because the person is helpless or damaged in some way," Dr. Hambourger continued. "In fact, that life may in some ways be even more precious. Many of the most important sacrificial aspects of love are elicited by imperfection. Loving someone who is disabled, for instance, is basic to our understanding of who we are as humans, and of the nature of love itself."

Dr. Hambourger expressed relief that, after November's election and its polarizing issues, "We can now unite as witnesses to the holiness of life and the importance of the human person. We can be evangelizers for life. We can testify that human life is beautiful even when — in some ways especially when — it is difficult."

"There is a crudeness to a society that doesn't value people very much," Dr. Hambourger said. "The sanctity of life should be a unitive issue, not a divisive one. The Church says we should reach out to the world, and we need to learn how to talk to people about these issues, to speak the truth with love. Love matters — people respond to it. We don't need to harangue. Just a calm, 30-second witness, speaking up with colleagues or

## "Good news of a great joy..."

The Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus' message. Lovingly received day after day by the Church, it is to be preached with dauntless fidelity as "good news" to the people of every age and culture.

At the dawn of salvation, it is the Birth of a Child which is proclaimed as joyful news: "I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Lk 2:10-11). The source of this "great joy" is the Birth of the Savior; but Christmas also reveals the full meaning of every human birth, and the joy which accom-

panies the Birth of the Messiah is thus seen to be the foundation and fulfillment of joy at every child born into the world (cf. Jn 16:21).

When He presents the heart of His redemptive mission, Jesus says: "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (Jn 10:10). In truth, he is referring to that "new" and "eternal" life which consists in communion with the Father, to which every person is freely called in the Son by the power of the Sanctifying Spirit. It is precisely in this "life" that all the aspects and stages of human life achieve their full significance.

Man is called to a fullness of life which far exceeds the dimensions of his earthly existence, because it consists in sharing the very



officials and saying 'I'm Catholic and this issue really means a lot to me,' can change the tenor of the discussion and encourage dialogue."

Speaking of abortion, Dr. Ham-bourger said, "There's a lot of rationalization about the question of when life begins. Knowing all we know today about the reproductive process, any line we drew after conception would be arbitrary. At conception a child is obviously alive and an individual. So the issue of when you become a human being is very straightforward, and killing a person at any point in his or her life radically interferes with God's total plan. Each person is vitally important to God and to the world."

Part Three in the Bishop's Lecture Series will feature Dr. Patrick O'Connell, an internist with the Duke University Health System, speaking on John Paul II's Theology of the Body as it pertains to issues such as in vitro fertilization and sterility.

"Many Catholics don't understand where the Church is coming from on these issues," Dr. Mistrot explained. "Why for instance would the Church which is so pro-life oppose in vitro fertilization? But when we look into it, innocent human

lives are sacrificed in this process. The Church sees a child as a gift, not a right.

"The purpose of Dr. O'Connell's presentation will be to help foster a Trinitarian view of our bodies, particularly in the area of sexuality, and to then better understand how Church teaching in this area relates to marital life."

The third lecture will take place at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Chapel Hill on May 29.

## Marches for Life Set for Jan. 17, Jan. 22

On Jan. 17, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, will be the principal celebrant for a Mass for Life at 8 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Raleigh. The annual North Carolina Rally and March for Life will take place

at 1 p.m. at Nash Square (corner of Hargett and McDowell Streets in downtown Raleigh). On Jan. 22, Bishop Burbidge, along with Bishop Peter J. Jugis of the Diocese of Charlotte, will celebrate a Mass for Life at 11:30 a.m. in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C., followed by the National March for Life.

life of God. The loftiness of this supernatural vocation reveals the greatness and the inestimable value of human life even in its temporal phase. Life in time, in fact, is the fundamental condition, the initial stage and an integral part of the entire unified process of human existence. It is a process which, unexpectedly and undeservedly, is enlightened by the promise and renewed by the gift of divine life, which will reach its full realization in eternity (cf. 1 Jn 3:1-2). At the same time, it is precisely this supernatural calling which highlights the relative character of each individual's earthly life. After all, life on earth is not an "ultimate" but a "penultimate" reality; even so, it remains a sacred reality entrusted to us, to be preserved with a sense of responsibility and brought to perfection in love and in the gift of ourselves to God and to our brothers and sisters.

The Church knows that this Gospel of life, which she has received from her Lord, has a profound and persuasive echo in the heart of every person — believer and non-believer alike — because it marvelously fulfills all the heart's expectations while infinitely surpassing them. Even in the midst of difficulties and uncertainties, every person sincerely open to truth and goodness can, by the light of reason and the hidden action of grace, come to recognize in the natural law written in the heart (cf. Rom 2:14-15) the sacred value of human life from its very beginning until its end, and can affirm the right of every human being to have this primary good respected to the highest degree. Upon the recognition of this right, every human community and the political community itself are founded.

— His Holiness Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*







2008 YEAR OF ST. PAUL

## Celebrate St. Paul

**E**ach month, *NC Catholics* will report on various initiatives and activities throughout the Diocese to incorporate the Jubilee Year of St. Paul into the spiritual formation of the faithful. Watch this space! If you know of Pauline events occurring, send information and or pictures to *NC Catholics* by emailing [reece@raldioc.org](mailto:reece@raldioc.org).

### iPaul: Lessons From the Apostle

As this issue of *NC Catholics* went to press the following podcasts on St. Paul were available on our Diocesan Web site:

First Letter to the Corinthians - Msgr. Roberto Keenan  
 Primera Carta a los Corintios - Msgr. Roberto Keenan  
 Quien era San Pablo? pte. 1 - Rev. Carlos Noel Arce-Flores  
 Quien era San Pablo? pte. 2 - Rev. Carlos Noel Arce-Flores  
 Corinthians - Sister Joan Jurski  
 Galatians - Father James Labosky  
 Introduction to St. Paul - Father Jonathan Woodhall  
 To subscribe to podcasts on St. Paul, go to  
<http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/catechesis/stpaul/ipaul.aspx>.

### Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, Jan. 25, 2009

An ecumenical event at Duke University Divinity School will begin Jan. 25 at 3 p.m. *Conversion: The Beginning of the Journey* will begin at 3 p.m. with a panel discussion and dialogue on St. Paul, featuring Dr. Susan Eastman, Assistant Professor of the Practice of Bible and Christian Formation, Duke Divinity School, speaking on "The Conversion of St. Paul"; Steve Hinkle, Campus Minister, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship at Duke University, speaking on "How Evangelical Christians View Religious Conversion"; and Dr. Paul J. Griffiths, Warren Chair of Catholic Theology, Duke Divinity School, speaking on "The Roman Catholic Understanding of Conversion." At 5 p.m. in Goodson Chapel there will be an ecumenical prayer service conducted by the Reverend Jennifer Copeland, Methodist Campus Minister, with a reflection by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, followed by light refreshments and a social at 5:45 p.m. Bishop Burbidge will celebrate Mass in the Duke Chapel at 9 p.m.

### St. Mark Catholic Church, Wilmington

On Feb. 8, 11 and 13, Dr. Paul Covington will speak during the parish's Generations of Faith Gatherings on St. Paul and the Sacraments.

### Have you read...?

- *St. Paul the Apostle for Everyday*, by Michael P. Kerrigan, CSP (Paulist Press 2008).
- *The Apostle Paul and the Pauline Tradition*, by Stephen Finlan (Liturgical Press 2008).
- *The Life of St. Paul*, by Lawrence Boadt, CSP; illustrated by Linda Schapper (Paulist Press 2008).

"Neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who causes the growth." (1 Corinthians 3:7)

local news

## Death of Father Lawson

►► The Reverend Robert T. Lawson, 84, died Nov. 19 in Pinehurst, NC.

He was born in Goldsboro on Dec. 9, 1923 to Thomas J. Lawson and Gladys Burnette (Wilson) Lawson.

He attended Catholic University of America. Before entering the seminary, Fr. Lawson was a Xaverian Brother. He attended St. John Seminary in Brighton, MA and was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Raleigh on the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord, Feb. 2, 1962, at Immaculate Conception Church in Durham. He actively served as a priest of the Raleigh Diocese for 46 years even after his retirement in 1999.

During his priestly life, Father Lawson served in many ministries in the Diocese. He served as Coordinator of William Gaston Catholic High School in New Bern; Chaplain at Pembroke State College and St. Andrews College; Coordinator of Our Lady of the Hills Camp in Hendersonville; Diocesan Director of CCD; Superintendent of Schools; Administrator of Cardinal Gibbons High School; Diocesan Director of Cursillo and Charismatic Prayer Group; and Advocate for the Diocesan Tribunal. Father Lawson's ministerial assignments in the Diocese of Raleigh included: Christ the King, Kings Mountain (now part of the Diocese of Charlotte); Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh; Sacred Heart Cathedral, Raleigh; St. Mary, Laurinburg; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Newton Grove; St. Mary, Garner; Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rocky Mount; St. Mary, Goldsboro; and Sacred Heart, Pinehurst, where he retired as Pastor Emeritus in 1999. Father Lawson was a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus and served as the State Chaplain to the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina. He also served his community as a member of Lion's Club International, where he served as District J Governor in North Carolina.

Father Lawson's funeral Mass was held on Nov. 24 at Sacred Heart Church in Pinehurst with the Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, as Principal Celebrant and the Most Rev. F. Joseph Gossman, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Raleigh, as Principal Concelebrant. Burial took place at Evergreen Memorial Cemetery in Goldsboro.



## Bishop Meets With Lay Ecclesial Ministers Association

►► On Nov. 15, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge celebrated Mass





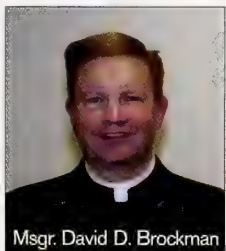
with members of the Lay Ecclesial Ministers Association at St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church in Raleigh. In his homily, the Bishop referred to all present as "co-workers in the truth" (3 John 1:8). "We rejoice in knowing," he said, "that in teaching, proclaiming and witnessing the Gospel without compromise, we have the truth: the truth that will prevail, the truth that will be victorious and the truth that will set us free."

A luncheon followed the Mass, after which the Bishop met with the lay ministers to share blessings and challenges of ministry. Afterwards the group discussed a variety of topics, including ministry to Hispanics and young adults and the need for faith formation at all stages of life. Mary Ellen McGuire, Pastoral Associate at St. Thomas More Parish in Chapel Hill, found the meeting particularly helpful. "Having only been in this Diocese for a few months," she said, "the highlight of the day was meeting the Bishop, hearing about common challenges and concerns within the Diocese, and meeting my peers in lay ministry."

## Bishop Announces Papal Honors

►► In a letter to the faithful of the Diocese of Raleigh, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge made the following announcement:

It is with great joy that I announce the bestowal of papal honors:



Msgr. David D. Brockman



Kathleen Walsh

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI has named Very Reverend David D. Brockman a Prelate of Honor with the title *Reverend Monsignor*. This honor reflects Monsignor Brockman's great love for Our Lord Jesus and His Church and his faithful and generous priestly service throughout the years. I take this opportunity to express renewed thanks to Monsignor Brockman for his loyal and dedicated assistance as Vicar General and for the countless ways he serves in the Diocese of Raleigh.

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI has also bestowed the *Cross Pro-Ecclesia Et Pontifice* upon Kathleen Walsh. This papal award recognizes Kathleen's love for the Church, manifested in her commitment to serving those most in need. I take this opportunity to express renewed gratitude to Kathleen for her faithful witness, great zeal and continued service to the Diocese and community.

Please join me in expressing congratulations to Monsignor Brockman and Miss Kathleen Walsh and in assuring them of our ongoing prayers and support.

## Cardinal Gibbons High School Announces Centennial Events

►► During Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 26-31, Cardinal Gibbons High School (CGHS) will hold numerous events to celebrate its 100th anniversary.

On the opening day, the students and faculty of CGHS will

share in a Mass celebrated by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, and will welcome members of Cathedral School to campus. From their founding in 1909 as Sacred Heart Parochial School and Sacred Heart High School, until 1962 when (then) Cathedral Latin High School moved to the Western Boulevard location, both schools shared the same campus.

Monday to Friday, Jan. 26-30, special events are planned at Cardinal Gibbons and Embassy Suites in Cary for current students, past and current faculty and staff. On Jan. 31, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge will celebrate Mass in the CGHS gymnasium. After a 100th anniversary presentation in the gym, there will be an open house. CGHS historical displays will be set up the school, and a luncheon. The day is open to all.

## Mass Marks Black Catholic Month

►► The Diocese of Raleigh marked the celebration of Black Catholic Month on Nov. 15 with Mass celebrated by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge. The celebration, sponsored by the Office of African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization (AAMEN), recognizes the achievements, traditions and customs of black Catholics born in the United States and the growing number of newcomers from countries throughout Africa. AAMEN has chosen St. Martin de Porres as a role model for black Catholics. In his homily, Bishop Burbidge alluded to St. Martin, who was known as "Martin the charitable."

"If only all of us could have the same reputation — and we can," the Bishop said.

"Especially as we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, what better way to show our gratitude to God than by being charitable in our deeds and using our gifts and talents in service of those in most need."

The Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver were in attendance at the celebration, along with a choir comprised of members from several Gospel choirs. Concelebrants included Bishop Emeritus F. Joseph Gossman.



## Bishop Announces Pastoral Assignment

►► The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh, announces the following pastoral assignment:

Reverend Achilles Kiwanuka, a Priest of the Diocese of Kiyinda-Mityana (Uganda), is appointed Parochial Vicar at Saint Michael the Archangel Parish in Cary.

In addition to welcoming Father Achilles Kiwanuka, kindly join Bishop Burbidge in welcoming the following Priests to the Diocese of Raleigh:

Reverend Antoine Carlioz, a Priest of the Mission de France, is in residence at the Friary at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish. Father Carlioz is studying Theology at Duke University Divinity School.

Reverend Andrew E. Ekpenyong, a Priest of the Diocese of Calabar (Nigeria), is residing in Greenville. Father Ekpenyong is a Doctoral student in the Department of Biomedical Physics at East Carolina University.



## Dear NCC: Are Science and Religion Really Enemies?

One subject I often end up discussing with friends and acquaintances is the apparent conflict between religion and science. A surprising number of people believe these two powerful forces in our society are incompatible with each other. Some even claim there is an “inherent conflict” between them.



— Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)

When people learn that I am a scientist and a Catholic priest, a common response is, “Wow, how do you do it?” Although it may appear to a casual observer that science and religion make competing claims over the same questions, in reality they do not.

As far back as the late 1500s, a well-known churchman named Cardinal Baronius made the point that religion teaches us “the way to go to heaven, not the way the heavens go.” Science, on the other hand, addresses the physical world and “how the heavens go.” This simple but important distinction, which was later incorporated into the writings of Galileo, reminds us that science and religion are objectively compatible with each other, since they have distinct and unique domains.

Yet even if they deal with different domains, science and religion can and must speak to each other. Albert Einstein already saw this when he made his now-famous remark: “Science without religion is lame; religion without science is blind.” Science and religion need each other and must work together. Pope John Paul II asserted this same fundamental point when he said: “Science can purify religion from error and superstition. Religion can purify science from idolatry

and false absolutes.”

This task of collaboration and purification, however, is not an easy one in an environment of mutual doubt, suspicion and hostility. One reason for such hostility is that religion often purifies science by insisting on the primacy of ethics. Yet many scientists are clearly unwilling to acknowledge that the interests of humanity are authentically served only when scientific knowledge is joined to a truthful conscience, and the pursuit of science is attenuated through the filter of ethics.

In fact, the much-hyped conflict between religion and science turns out to be largely a conflict between men of science and men of religion, rather than between science itself and religion itself. Ultimately, some scientists may become uncomfortable when they perceive that science cannot adequately address value questions or provide answers to the ultimate questions that religion addresses. Some men of faith may similarly feel threatened when they finally have to acknowledge that the Bible is not, in fact, a scientific textbook.

A further explanation for the suspicion between scientists and men of faith can be the ill will generated by a vocal minority of scientists who suggest that religion has a “softening influence on the brain,” or that men and women of faith are “spared the trouble of thinking” when they live by religious dogma and strong ethical principles. Quite the opposite is actually the case. True religion, like good science, promotes a more measured rationality, and a more ordered thoughtfulness as we consider the created world we are a part of. Absolute religious dogmas and invariable ethical principles do not stifle thinking any more than absolute definitions and

# Dear NCC

This month with  
Father Tad Pacholczyk



## Conception, Birth and Death in December

unalterable geometric postulates stifle the thinking of the student of geometry. The rules of geometry do not "spare us the trouble of thinking" but, on the contrary, help us to think in a structured way. Thus provides us with the very categories we need in order to be able to enter more deeply into this branch of mathematics. Similarly, religious dogma and sound ethical teaching afford us the essential categories we need to enter reasonably into a discussion of the ultimate questions that every person faces – questions of purpose, morality and human destiny. Religion, in the words of G. K. Chesterton, is never "an arrest of thought, but a fertile basis and constant provocation of thought."

Moving past the mutual suspicion that has arisen between scientists and men of faith is thus a critical first step in seeing how religion and science are not, enemies at all. The two are able not only to co-exist peaceably, but, within the person of the scientist, religion and science can ultimately interconnect and strengthen one another. The pioneering astronomer and mathematician Johannes Kepler, who first calculated the elliptical orbits of the planets, perhaps put it best when he wrote: "The chief aim of all investigations of the external world should be to discover the rational order and harmony which has been imposed on it by God and which He revealed to us in the language of mathematics."

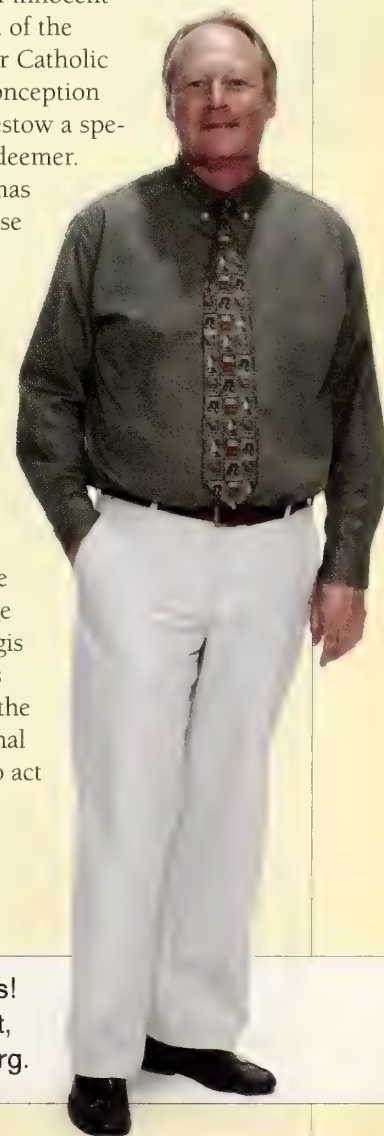
That source of rationality, which is God himself, should be a source of continual wonder for each of us, as it was for Einstein when he mused: "The most incomprehensible thing about the universe is that it is comprehensible."

**I**n the last month of the year, the Church celebrates important feasts that correspond to the three most significant events in mortal life. On Dec. 8, she reminds us of the beginning of life by commemorating the conception – without original sin – of the woman who would bear Christ. That birth is celebrated, of course, at Christmas. And Dec. 28 is the Feast of the Holy Innocents, the babies who were martyred by Herod's men in his attempt to exterminate the Messiah. (This year, because the 28th falls on a Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, the movable Feast of the Holy Family takes precedence in the liturgy.)

Taken together, these days in the life of the Church highlight its campaign against the modern martyrdom of innocent unborn children through abortion. The dogma of the Immaculate Conception clearly emphasizes our Catholic belief that human life begins at conception: Conception – not birth – was the moment God chose to bestow a special exemption on the future mother of the Redeemer. At the birth of Jesus, Scripture and the Christmas liturgy tell us that the coming of a Child is cause for joy, not sorrow. Yet we are reminded by the fate of the Holy Innocents that the world and its rulers, out of a desire to secure political power, can act in a way that threatens and even destroys innocent human life.

Catholics in North Carolina can take the lessons of December into the month of January, and amplify the voice of the Church at two events. On Jan. 17, the annual North Carolina Rally and March for Life takes place in the capital of our state. And on Jan. 22, in the capital of our nation, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of the Diocese of Raleigh and Bishop Peter J. Jugis of the Diocese of Charlotte will celebrate a Mass for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, followed by the National March for Life. Both events are opportunities to act on behalf of the Innocents of today.

– Richard Reece is the editor of *NC Catholics*.



**Send your questions to:**  
**"Since you asked ..."**

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

**Or:**

reece@raldioc.org

►► Thank you for your letters and e-mails!  
You can write me at 715 Nazareth Street,  
Raleigh, NC 27606 or reece@raldioc.org.



# A love letter from God

That's what we receive  
in Sacred Scripture

*Dei Verbum*, Part 2 of 2

part three of a nine-part series  
on the Second Vatican Council

**Are these teachings biblical?** Catholics are sometimes told that their faith is unbiblical, but this is simply not true! There is no Catholic doctrine that is not at least implicit in Scripture. Here we have sketched a brief synopsis of the scriptural evidence for some Catholic doctrines that are often touted as unbiblical.

► **The Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Christ:** 1 Cor 10:16, 11:27-30; Matt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; John 6:47-63,66

► **Veneration of Mary:** Luke 1:28,41-43,48; John 19:25-27; Rev 12:1-6

► **The intercession of the Saints:** Jer 15:1; 2 Macc 15:14; Matt 22:30; Luke 15:10; 1 Cor 4:9; Heb 12:1; Rev 5:8, 6:9-10

► **Relics:** Acts 19:11-12

► **Power of the priest to forgive sins:** Matt 16:19,18:15-18; John 20:23

► **Papal infallibility:** Matt 16:18-19; Luke 22:31-32; John 21:15-17

► **Purgatory:** Ps 66:12; Isa 4:4, 6:5-7; Mic 7:8-9; Mal 3:2-4; 2 Macc 12:39-42, 44-45; Matt 5:25-26, 12:32; Eph 4:8-10, 1 Cor 3:11-15; Rev 21:27

► **Guardian angels:** Ps 34:7, 91:11; Matt 18:10; Acts 12:15; Heb 1:14

Perhaps you've seen the romantic comedy, *You've Got Mail*. It reflected the excitement people feel when they receive notes from loved ones. With this love letter from God called sacred Scripture, we've all got mail – and we should be excited to read it!

Last issue, we said that God's revelation of Himself in Scripture is like an "instruction manual" for our lives. In reality, however, God's written Word is more like a love letter than an instruction manual. As *Dei Verbum* tells us, "... in the sacred books, the Father who is in heaven comes lovingly to meet His children, and talks with them." (DV 21)

First of all, there are certain facts about sacred Scripture, which *Dei Verbum* clearly lays out for us, that serve as the foundation of our understanding:

God is the author of sacred Scripture. Sacred Scripture is God's Word put down in writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The word "inspired" means literally "God breathed." The Scriptures are called the "Word of God" because they have God as their author. Scripture alone has the charism of inspiration.

God inspired the human authors of the Bible. The human authors of the Scriptures did not simply copy what the Holy Spirit dictated to them. Rather, God "made full use of their faculties and powers so that, though He acted in them and by them, it was as true authors that they consigned to writing whatever He wanted written, and no more." (DV 11) Inspiration is somewhat mysterious, but we can understand something about how it works by an analogy with the Incarnation: just as the second Person of the Trinity assumed a human nature, God has expressed Himself in "the words of men" through the aid of human authors. (DV 13)

Sacred Scripture teaches the truth. The doctrine of inerrancy follows logically from the inspiration of Scripture. Since God is the author of Scripture, everything that the human authors affirm is affirmed by the Holy Spirit.

## Understanding sacred Scripture

*Dei Verbum* goes on to explain how best to understand or interpret the meaning of the Scriptures. For example, *Dei Verbum* states that because the human authors are true authors, it is important to get at the sacred author's inten-



tion in order to best grasp the meaning of a passage. This means that when we read the Bible, we must ask what is the author's purpose in writing a particular passage. Does the author intend to narrate history, tell a story or parable or to utter a prophecy? Is the passage a prayer or a poem? The reason is that truth will be expressed differently in each of these kinds of writing. Many of the apparent contradictions in Scripture can be resolved by keeping in mind that the sacred author does not always intend that we take his meaning literally.

The most important rule for understanding Scripture given by *Dei Verbum*, however, is that "sacred Scripture must be read and interpreted in the light of the same Spirit by whom it was written." (DV 12) The Holy Spirit who inspired the human authors of the Bible is the same Spirit who guides the Church "into all truth." (John 14:25-26) No truth of revelation can contradict the other truths of revelation. A test for the authenticity of revelation is whether it is consistent with both the "content and unity of the whole Scripture" and "the living Tradition of the whole Church." (DV 12) Many Scripture passages are misunderstood simply because they have been taken out of context.

The Bible came from the living Tradition of the Church, and not vice versa. It was the successors of Peter and the Apostles, the Pope and Bishops in union with him, who authorized the books of the Scripture. Still, the task of authentically interpreting Scripture today is reserved for the pope and the Bishops in union with him – the Magisterium. We should pause for a moment and consider what a great gift this is! God did not leave us to

ourselves to understand His words to us. He has given us a guarantee of understanding them correctly by entrusting to His Church His own authority to teach. Without such an authoritative guide, we are left with only each person's subjective – and often competing – interpretation.

Jesus Christ is the center of the Scriptures:

Finally, a word or two must be said about the Gospels, the "heart of all the Scriptures." (CCC 125) Jesus Christ is the center of all revelation, and so His Gospel is the center or heart of the Scriptures. Everything in the Old Testament leads up to Christ, and everything in the New Testament refers back to Him. St. Augustine said, "God ... wisely arranged that the New Testament be hidden in the Old and the Old be made manifest in the New."

There are some people today who question the reliability of the Gospels as historical documents. On the surface, it may seem that the four Gospel writers contradict one another and so must not be reliable witnesses. However, it is important to remember that the Gospel writers did not intend to give us a "news account" of the life of Christ! *Dei Verbum* explains it in this way: "The sacred authors, in writing the four Gospels, selected certain of the many elements which had been handed on, either orally or already in written form; others they synthesized or explained with an eye to the situation of the churches, while sustaining the form of preaching, but always in such a fashion that they have told us the honest truth about Jesus." (DV 19, emphasis added)

– Sister Maria Faustina Showalter, O.P., Sister John Mary Corbett, O.P., Sister Maria Gemma Martek, O.P., and Sister Elizabeth Ann O'Reilly, O.P.

## 4 ways to incorporate holy Scripture into your daily life

However you choose to incorporate Scripture into your life, you won't regret your decision! Remember, He has promised that "whoever seeks shall find," so if you truly seek to know God better in His Word, He will bless your desire abundantly.

**1** Reflect on the daily Scripture readings. The Church has taken great care to present God's Word to the faithful during the Liturgy of the Word. The Lectionary is organized into a systematic cycle of Old and New Testament biblical texts, which covers a large representation of Scripture over the course of several years, between the Sunday and weekday masses. Whether or not you can attend daily Mass, read and reflect on the readings for each day. Follow along in a the Daily Roman Missal, or look up the readings in your Bible.

**2** Pray the Liturgy of the Hours. The Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office, is prayed daily by clergy, religious and laity all over the world. It is the universal prayer of the Church which flows from the Mass and sanctifies every moment of the day. The hours

of the office are comprised of psalms and short Scripture readings, along with prayers of praise and petition. A breviary, the Liturgy of the Hours prayer book, can be obtained at Catholic bookstores.

**3** Join a Bible Study. Inquire at your parish about Bible Study groups to meet God in Scripture and study His Word with others. Check with your favorite local Catholic bookstore for good sources of material to engage in a Catholic Bible study on your own, if a group opportunity isn't readily available.

**4** Read the Bible each day. Devote a portion of your day to reading the Bible and reflecting on what God desires to communicate to you. It could be something as formal as *Lectio Divina*, a method of reading and contemplating the Scriptures, or as simple as making a commitment to spend 5-10 minutes reading one Psalm or Gospel chapter per day. Let the Holy Spirit guide you in your selection and read slowly, allowing it to penetrate your heart.



# sentenced to prostitution

## St. Lucy's story

**Feast day:** December 13

**Patron saint of sight and the blind**

**Meaning of name:** Light

**Claim to fame:** St. Lucy was born into a wealthy family. From an early age, she wanted to devote her life to God as a virgin. Her father died while she was still young, however, and her mother desired that St. Lucy marry. St. Lucy's mother had a change of heart, though, after visiting the relics of St. Agatha and being cured of a hemorrhage. Following this episode, she allowed St. Lucy to distribute the family's money among the poor. This act angered the man St. Lucy was unwillingly supposed to marry. He sent her before the Roman governor of Sicily. The governor tried to sentence St. Lucy to prostitution, but when the time came to take her away, God's strength filled her and the guards found her too heavy to move. Before her death, St. Lucy predicted the punishment of the man she was supposed to marry. She also predicted the end of the persecution of Christians, as well as the end of the ruthless Emperor Diocletian's rule.

**Why she is a saint:** Before her fiancé denounced her to the government, St. Lucy devoted her life to service of the poor, and gave away most of her family's fortune. Later, despite being tortured under Diocletian, St. Lucy never denied or wavered in her faith in God. She endured persecution bravely and willingly suffered for Christ.

**Best quote:** Showing how important purity was to St. Lucy, she once said, "Those whose hearts are pure are the temples of the Holy Spirit."

**How she died:** After her resistance to prostitution, the Roman governor sentenced her to death by burning at the stake. However, much to the dismay of the Roman officials, God saved St. Lucy from this fate. Again the governor sentenced her to die, this time by the sword. This attempt to execute Lucy succeeded, and she became a martyr of the Church.



**Día festivo:** 13 de diciembre

**Santa patrona de la vista y de los ciegos**

**No se sabe cuándo fue canonizada**

**Significado del nombre:** Luz

### Hechos que la hicieron famosa:

Lucia nació en una familia pudiente y desde niña quiso consagrar su vida a Dios como una virgen. Sin embargo, su padre murió mientras ella todavía era joven y su madre deseaba que Lucy se casara. No obstante, la madre de Lucia pronto cambió de parecer cuando visitó las reliquias de Santa Ágata y se curó de una hemorragia. Después de este episodio, le permitió a Lucia distribuir el dinero de la familia entre los pobres. Este gesto, sin embargo, enfureció al hombre con quien Lucia debía casarse contra su voluntad. El gobernador trató de sentenciar a Lucia a la prostitución, pero cuando llegó el momento de llevársela, la fuerza de Dios la llenó y los guardias no pudieron moverla porque estaba demasiado pesada. Antes de su muerte, Lucia predijo varias cosas. Primero, ella predijo el castigo del hombre con quien se suponía que ella debía casarse. Segundo, ella predijo el final de la persecución, y también el final del dominio del despiadado emperador Diocleciano.

**Por qué es una santa:** Antes de que su prometido la denunciara al gobierno, Lucia consagró su vida a servir a los pobres y regaló la mayor parte de la fortuna de su familia. Posteriormente, a pesar de ser torturada bajo Diocleciano, Lucia nunca negó o flaqueó de su fe en Dios. Ella soportó con valentía la persecución y de buena voluntad sufrió por Cristo.

**Mejor cita:** Demostrando la importancia que tenía para ella la pureza, Lucia una vez dijo: «Aquellos cuyos corazones son puros son los templos del Espíritu Santo».

**Cómo murió:** Luego de su resistencia a la prostitución, el gobernador romano la sentenció a morir quemada en la hoguera. Sin embargo, para gran consternación de los funcionarios romanos, Dios salvó a Lucia de este destino. Nuevamente, el gobernador sentenció a Lucia a morir, esta vez por la espada. Este intento de ejecutar a Lucia tuvo éxito, y ella se hizo una mártir de la Iglesia.

## history quiz

**His papacy was  
the longest for 1,000 years**

►► The papacy of Pope Adrian I, lasting nearly 24 years, was unequaled in length by any pope for almost 1,000 years. Famous for his resistance to Lombard aggression and for presiding over the Seventh General Council at Nicaea, Pope Adrian died on Christmas Day, **Dec. 25, WHAT YEAR?**



►► The first one to do so since the Vietnam War ended about three decades earlier, a U.S. passenger jet landed in Vietnam on **Dec. 10, WHAT YEAR?**

►► The first crossword puzzle was printed in the *New York World* on **Dec. 21, WHAT YEAR?**

ANSWERS: 772, 2004, 1913



## Black Catholic Month

**O**n Saturday, Nov. 15, Bishop Burbidge celebrated Mass in honor of St Martin de Porres at St. Joseph Church, Raleigh. When I looked at the worship booklet for this celebration, I was chagrined. I had proofread it. It was entitled "Black History Month." It should have been entitled "Black Catholic Month."

Why Black Catholic Month? The Black Catholic Clergy Caucus started and promotes this observance. Why? There is always the tendency in our country for homogenization. What we should strive for is acceptance of diversity. The meaning of Catholicism as all-embracing is often forgotten.

If we look at the Church, for instance, in the Raleigh area, we see great diversity. There is diversity in liturgical rites. There are Catholics of the Maronite, Byzantine, Ukrainian, and Syro-Malabar Rites.

There are Catholics from all over the world here. They have different feast days, different music, different customs. These we should cherish and help to preserve. This has been done to a great extent among our Spanish-speaking Catholics, but not for other people.

Our ministry is striving to do the same among Catholics who are here from the various countries of Africa. James Waniki of Kenya came to see me some years ago. He expressed his concern that his people were leaving the Church for other churches because they did not feel welcome in our parishes.

This visit by Waniki was the catalyst of a monthly Mass for the Kenyans. This has evolved into the Swahili Mass for the East African People who speak this language. There is also the Mass for Igbo-speaking Nigerians, a Mass for Nigerians and a Mass for the people of Congo.

While we Catholics who are African American are of the Roman Rite, we have music, preaching and feast days that embrace our black heritage. The purpose of the Black Catholic Month was to bring this before the people of the Church. In the integration of the black and white churches there was a loss to black Catholics of their music, their celebrations and their faith heritage.

Black Catholic Month is an attempt to promote acceptance, not homogenization. In our Diocese, we have done this around our devotion to St. Martin de Porres, whom to a degree we still call Blessed Martin. He is a saint to whom we can readily relate.

— Msgr. Thomas P. Hadden

## Carta al Niño Jesús

**Q**uiero Niño Dios:  
Naciste en la humildad y la sencillez, para identificarte con tantas personas que viven en la pobreza, la tristeza y la soledad.

Te solidarizas con las familias y con las personas que peregrinan en el mundo sin oportunidad de encontrar un trabajo digno, una patria segura que defienda los derechos y promueva la dignidad.

En tu portal se encuentran las oscuridades de la guerra, la violencia y la injusticia que azotan a toda la humanidad, esperando confiados que los rayos de tu luz nos ayuden a vislumbrar los caminos de la reconciliación, el perdón y la fraternidad.

Quisiera pedirte en nombre de toda la humanidad que nos concedas el regalo que necesita una gran nación que por tener tantas cosas se olvida de defender la vida, a los pobres, a la justicia y a la verdad.

Concedéndonos que no construyamos muros que nos aíslan de los vecinos sino que construyamos puentes para ser más amigos y para ser hermanos.

Concedéndonos que no despreciemos al peregrino porque es en ellos donde tú naces como nuestro hermano para darnos en el mundo tu gozo y tu salvación.

Ayúdanos para que todos sean "legales" como lo somos todos ante tu portal y como seremos todos en tu reino inmortal.

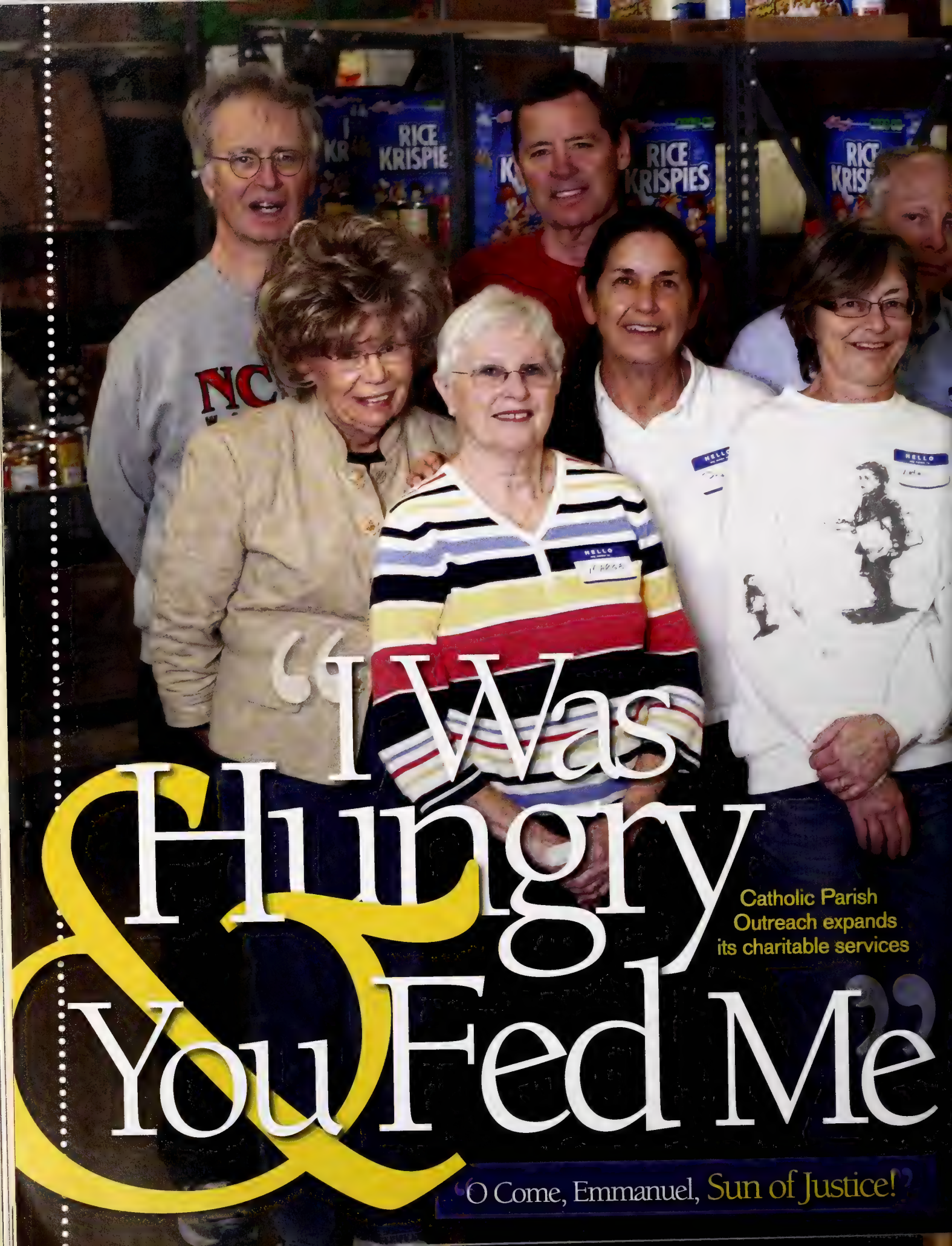
Bendice a las familias para que tengan techo y pan. Para que en ellas nos bendigas con el calor del hogar de Nazaret y en cada una de ellas pueda brillar la luz de tu presencia y el gozo de ser parte de tu familia divina.

Regala a todos los niños y jóvenes de nuestro mundo el deseo de tener tu luz para crecer en una cultura nueva que construya tu unidad.

Regálanos el gozo de que sea Navidad en nuestro corazón, en nuestra familia y en toda la humanidad.

— Padre Fernando Torres





# “I Was Hungry & You Fed Me”

Catholic Parish  
Outreach expands  
its charitable services

“O Come, Emmanuel, Sun of Justice!”





... story

by Rich Reece

Photos by Denmark Photo & Video

**A**t 9:30 on a Monday morning in December, the parking lot outside the new Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) Food Pantry on North Raleigh Boulevard is full. A long line has already formed at the front door. The economy is faltering and the holidays are approaching; the lines swell with men and women who never expected to be here.

Incarnation – perhaps no other word resonates more deeply with Catholics, particularly during the seasons of Advent and Christmas. The belief that Jesus, who is God, became man and offered Himself for our salvation is a central tenet of our faith. And today, we who are members of His Body are the means by which His mission continues to be accomplished in the world.

For the people lined up at CPO, the face of

Christ today is a friendly volunteer who will help them feed their families. The building also houses Centro para Familias Hispanas (The Hispanic Family Center). Rick Miller-Haraway is Director of the Raleigh Regional Office of Catholic Charities, which operates CPO and Centro. He speaks about the two sides of the operation – “the charitable side and the empowerment side.” On the charitable side, he explains, clients referred in writing by church, community or public service organizations in Wake, Johnston and Franklin counties can receive a week’s worth of groceries every 30 days. A typical family visits CPO 2.6 times a year. The pantry also offers children’s and maternity clothing and infant accessories – cribs, strollers, diapers – when they are available.





Catholic  
Parish  
Outreach



The center offers crisis counseling, individual and family counseling, information and referral services, immigration services and case management services. As a partner agency with Wake County SmartStart, the center serves families with pre-school children by providing developmental screenings, referrals to services for children with developmental

delays, parent education and a book exchange program for pre-schoolers. The center also partners with Wake Tech to provide ESL classes, GED classes in Spanish and computer training. In partnership with the Mexican Consulate and Wake Tech, the center offers a literacy program that enables adults to eventually earn a high school diploma. A summer camp and an after-school tutoring program also are offered for Hispanic children. The center also collaborates with SAFEchild to provide a child abuse prevention program in Spanish called *Crianza con Carino*.

"Without our presence," said center Director Consuelo Kwee, "many of these people would have nowhere to turn. They are so thankful that we are here to help them in this challenging time in their lives. They trust us."

CPO has served the Triangle community for 31 years. And some of its volunteers have been there since the beginning. Walt Downey, a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, has been a volunteer for half that history. He can remember when a busy day saw 50 clients served, whereas the new facility typically serves 100 or more. In earlier days, Walt said, the crew was smaller, and "we all did everything," instead of working a single station, as is required by the larger operation. Through the help of other community services – the Food Shuttle, the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina, the USDA's Emergency Food Assistance Program, as well as parish food drives and more than 950 volunteers – CPO is now the largest food pantry in the area. The number of clients served has almost doubled in the last five years, with more than a third of that increase in the last year.

Who are those clients? The CPO Web site gives examples:

Elizabeth is in her late 70s, on dialysis, and has custody of her five grandkids. Their mother is in prison. She has plenty of room in her house, but needs help with food and clothes for the kids.

Felicia, a single mom, was in a car accident last

**B**ut men and women arriving at CPO often have needs beyond food and clothing. A short interview can reveal those needs, which is where the empowerment side comes in. The *Centro para Familias Hispanas* began in 1997 by providing disaster relief in the Hispanic community following the devastation of Hurricane Fran. It started with a half-time Director. Today, three full-time and three part-time staffers provide a wide array of services to close to 12,000 people each year. The center has experienced an increase in clients of 149 percent over the last two years.





spring. She suffered a stroke due to her injuries and lost her job because she could not work. Felicia is two months behind on her mortgage. She is waiting for disability approval, but in the meantime will probably lose her house and car. She came to CPO through Wake County after applying for food stamps. She had run out of food for herself and her daughter.

Jim, a single man in his 40s, was laid off from a technology job in RTP about six months ago and has not found work. His savings are gone, and he is about to lose his house. With no food, he approached his church, which sent him to CPO.

Margaret is a single working mom with four children. The family lives out of her car. She has a teenage son whom the shelters will not accept, unless he goes to a men's shelter. Margaret refuses to separate her family. She has a cooler and access to a microwave. CPO provided groceries to the family, and a referral to Wake Inter-Faith Hospitality Network.

The huge increase of people in these kinds of situations was the reason for CPO's move in November to its current facility. The space available in the new facility allows for offices, classrooms and the storage of more food supplies. Its warehouse is graced by a 900-square-foot combination walk-in freeze cooler that was donated by Amerisource Bergen Corp. The cost of moving the freezer, more than \$20,000, was covered by a grant from the city of Raleigh.

Terry Foley, the executive director of CPO, names the move to the new center,

(dedicated Nov. 20 by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh), as the highlight of her four years as director. "It's because we can serve more people now, both in the food pantry and the family center." For years, Foley has wanted to do a Food Stamp Outreach Program. Now a Wake County human services worker will be on site twice a month to help identify and pre-qualify families eligible for food stamp assistance.

Foley has been impressed with the range of people seeking assistance from CPO, especially in the last year. "They really run the gamut of society," she said. "It's not just minorities or the chronically poor. One of our volunteers was sur-

prised recently to see her neighbor receiving food. It was a little awkward - she had no idea the neighbor was in need."

To be among the volunteers at CPO on a busy

day in December is to be impressed with the efficiency of their operation. It starts with the greeter who welcomes clients at the door and moves to the interviewers who help to qualify them and learn about their needs beyond food. In the food area, while one volunteer sorts through produce, another stocks shelves from which several more fill bags of groceries customized to individual families. In the warehouse, other volunteers are unloading deliveries from the Food Shuttle or the Food Bank. When the orders are filled, volunteers wheel carts with the groceries to the clients' cars. Depending on the at-

## How You Can Help

**Volunteer!** Visit the CPO Web site: <http://www.cporaleigh.org/index.html>

**Donate!** CPO needs Non-perishable groceries. Historically, food donations drop off noticeably in the summer, but summer is a time when many families are in greater need because children are out of school, where they would normally receive free lunches.

**Children's clothes up to size 6**

**Maternity clothes**

**Baby accessories – cribs, strollers, etc. (no car seats)**

**Diapers. There is a special need for diapers because they are not covered by food stamps.**

**Monetary donations. Because of its high-volume buying power, CPO can feed a family of four for a week for \$20.**

CPO is located at 2013 N. Raleigh Boulevard, south of the Beltline (near exit 12, Brentwood Road/Yonkers Road), between Yonkers Road and Crabtree Avenue.

tendance on a given day, a client can be in and out in 30-40 minutes.

In the midst of the volunteers, one can also sense the peace and low-key contentment that come from the opportunity to do simple, tangible good work. From being, without a word said, Christ's presence to the needy in the season of His Incarnation.

**CPO has served the Triangle community for 31 years. And some of its volunteers have been there since the beginning.**





**A** las 9:30 de un lunes por la mañana de diciembre, el estacionamiento de la nueva instalación del *Catholic Parish Outreach* (CPO por sus siglas en inglés) en North Raleigh Boulevard está completamente lleno y ya se comienza a formar la fila enfrente a la puerta. La economía es vacilante, las festividades están a la vuelta de la esquina, y las filas se llenan con hombres y mujeres que jamás pensaron estar aquí.

Encarnación: Quizás no hay otra palabra que resuene más entre los católicos, en particular, durante la temporada de Adviento y la Navidad. El tema principal de nuestra fe se basa en la creencia en que Jesús, se convirtió en hombre y se ofreció para la salvación de todos nosotros, y hoy en día, los que somos miembros de Su Cuerpo, continuamos con Su misión en este mundo.

Para la gente que espera a las afueras de CPO, el rostro de Cristo se refleja en un amistoso voluntario que los ayudará a alimentar a sus familias; además de alimentos, la instalación también cuenta con el Centro para Familias Hispánicas. Rick Miller-Haraway es el Director de la Oficina Regional de *Catholic Charities*, habla acerca de las dos caras de las operaciones del centro —el lado caritativo y el lado de lo tangible. En el lado caritativo, los clientes se expresan por escrito a la iglesia, a la comunidad o a las instituciones públicas de los condados *Wake*, *Johnston* y *Franklin* para recibir una semana de alimentos cada 30 días (una familia normal visita las instalaciones de CPO por lo menos 2.6 veces al año.) Además, la despensa también ofrece ropa para niños, de maternidad, y de estar disponibles, también ofrecen accesorios para bebé como cunas, cochecitos y pañales.

Sin embargo, los hombres y mujeres que se dirigen a CPO a veces tienen penurias más allá de las necesidades básicas de alimento y ropa; una pequeña entrevista revela estas necesidades en el lado tangible. El Centro para Familias Hispánicas, comenzó sus operaciones en 1997 brindando ayuda a la comunidad hispana después de los estragos del huracán Fran. El centro comenzó con un director de medio tiempo; y hoy en día, cuentan con tres personas de tiempo completo y tres de medio tiempo, para brindar sus servicios a más de 12,000 personas al año. En los últimos dos años, la cifra de personas que asisten al centro aumentó en un 149 por ciento.

El centro ofrece terapias a individuos y a familias, información, servicios de inmigración, etc. Además brindan servicios a niños en edad preescolar en conjunto con la agencia *SmartStart*, la cual aporta las pantallas de aprendizaje, programas para niños con problemas de aprendizaje, entre otros. El centro también trabaja en conjunto con *Wake Tech*, el cual imparte clases de inglés como segunda lengua (*ESL* por sus siglas en inglés), clases de español y de computación. El Consulado de México y *Wake Tech* ofrecen programas de capacitación para adultos (*GED* por sus



Tenia hambre  
y me diste  
de comer”

siglas en inglés) para terminar los estudios de secundaria. También ofrecen campamentos de verano y tutorías después de la escuela para los niños hispanos. Asimismo, el centro también colabora con el programa *Crianza con Cariño* de prevención de abuso al menor. —Sin nuestra presencia, muchas de estas personas no tendrían a donde acudir. Ellos están muy agradecidos por la ayuda que le brindamos en estos momentos tan difíciles. Ellos confían en nosotros. —comenta Consuelo Kwee, directora del centro.

CPO ha mantenido sus operaciones en Carolina del Norte por 31 años y algunos de los voluntarios han estado trabajando allí desde el comienzo. Walt Downey, miembro de la parroquia de *Our Lady of Lourdes*, ha sido voluntario la mitad de esos años. Él recuerda que en un día atareado atendían a 50 clientes, mientras que en las nuevas instalaciones pueden atender a más de 100 personas o más. En años anteriores, el personal era mucho más reducido y —hacíamos todo —comentaba, en vez de trabajar en una sola estación como lo sugiere una operación más numerosa. A través de la ayuda de otros servicios comunitarios como el *Food Shuttle*, *Food Bank for Central and Eastern North Carolina*, *USDA*, *TEPAP*, y más de 950 voluntarios, CPO es hoy en día una de las más grandes despensas de alimentos en el área. El número de clientes que reciben ayuda se ha duplicado en los



últimos cinco años en más de un tercio del incremento del año pasado.

¿Quiénes son estos clientes? La página Web de CPO ofrece algunos ejemplos. Elizabeth de más de 70 años, en diálisis, y bajo custodia de sus 5 nietos porque la madre está en prisión, tiene espacio suficiente en su casa, pero necesita ayuda con los víveres y ropa para los niños.

Felicia: madre soltera, tuvo un accidente automovilístico a principio de este año, y debido a las lesiones del accidente, sufrió una apoplejía y perdió su trabajo. Ahora debe dos meses de la hipoteca y está a la espera de recibir la aprobación para recibir los beneficios en caso de discapacidad, pero está a punto de perder su hogar y su automóvil. Ella acudió a CPO a través del condado Wake después de solicitar los cupones para alimentos porque ya no puede comprar víveres para ella o para su hija. Jim: Soltero de 40 años, fue despedido de su trabajo en RTP hace 6 meses atrás y no ha podido conseguir otro empleo. Ahora utilizó todos sus ahorros y está a punto de perder su casa. Ahora sin nada con que comer, su iglesia lo refirió a CPO.

Margaret: Madre trabajadora soltera con cuatro hijos, viven a las afueras de su automóvil. Ella tiene un hijo en edad adolescente y por eso no lo aceptan en el albergue, a menos de que vaya al albergue de adultos, pero ella se rehúsa a separar a la familia. Ella tiene un refrigerador y un microondas y CPO los ayuda con los víveres y los refirió a *Wake Inter Faith Hospitality Network*.

El gran incremento de personas se encuentran en este tipo de situaciones fue la razón de la adquisición de la nueva instalación de CPO en Noviembre. La nueva instalación tiene espacio para oficinas, salones de clase, y más espacio para almacenar más víveres. El almacén es de 900

pies cuadrados y cuenta con un amplio congelador donado por *Amerisource Bergen Corporation*.

Terry Foley, Directora ejecutiva de CPO, se refiere a esta nueva adquisición como la acción más destacada durante sus cuatro años como directora; además dicha instalación fue dedicada el 20 de noviembre por el Obispo de Raleigh Michael Burbidge. —Puesto que podemos ayudar a mas personas ahora con ambos servicios, con la despensa y el centro de familias hispanas. Por cuatro años, Foley ha querido comenzar un programa de cupones para alimentos y ahora el Condado Wake enviará a trabajadores sociales dos veces al mes a las instalaciones para ayudar a identificar a las familias que pueden optar por los cupones para alimentos.

Foley está asombrada de la cantidad de personas que acuden a CPO por ayuda, en especial durante el año pasado. —Ellos vienen de todos los estratos sociales, no solo las minorías o los que viven en pobreza extrema. Uno de nuestros voluntarios se sorprendió al ver a su vecina solicitando víveres y se sintió un tanto incomoda porque no sabia que su vecina necesitaba ayuda —comenta Foley.

Es impresionante ver a los voluntarios de CPO durante el mes de diciembre y presenciar la eficiencia de su trabajo, desde el que recibe a los clientes a la entrada, hasta los que entrevistan a los clientes para saber sus condiciones más allá de sus necesidades alimenticias. En el área de alimentos, mientras uno de los voluntarios surte los productos, otro los acomoda en la despensa y los demás llenan las bolsas con víveres especializadas por familia. En el almacén, otros voluntarios reciben los envíos de *Food Shuttle* o *Food Bank*, y cuando los pedidos

## ¿Cómo puede ayudar?

**¡Voluntario!** Visite la página Web de CPO: <http://www.cporaleigh.org/index.html>

**¡Donaciones!** CPO necesita:

**Viveres no perecederos:** Las donaciones de viveres disminuyeron considerablemente durante el verano, pero es durante el verano cuando las familias se encuentran en mayor necesidad porque los niños están de vacaciones y ya no reciben los almuerzos gratis.

**Ropa para niños hasta la talla 6.**  
**Ropa de maternidad.**

**Accesorios para bebés:** cunas, cochecitos, etc. (no aceptamos asientos para autos).

**Pañales:** Los pañales no están incluidos en los cupones de alimentos.

**Donaciones monetarias:** CPO puede alimentar a una familia de cuatro personas con \$20 a la semana.

CPO se encuentra en el 2013 North Raleigh Boulevard, cerca de la salida 12 (Brentwood Road/Yonkers Road) entre Yonkers y Crabtree Avenue.

están listos, los voluntarios llevan los víveres hasta el automóvil de los clientes; y dependiendo de cuantas personas asistan al día, los clientes pueden recibir su pedido entre 30 a 40 minutos.

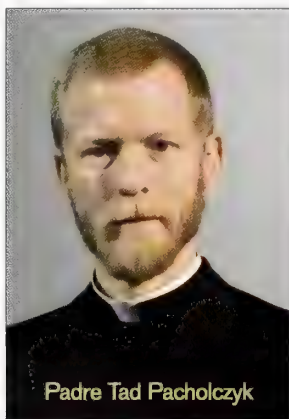
Entre todos los voluntarios, se siente la paz que proviene del contento de tener la oportunidad de realizar un buen trabajo simple y tangible. El solo hecho de estar allí, sin decir ni una palabra, Cristo hace presencia entre el necesitado en la temporada de Su Encarnación.





## Dear NCC: Ciencia y Religión: ¿Enemigos?

**E**l aparente conflicto entre la ciencia y la religión es un tema al que tarde o temprano llego cuando platico entre amigos y conocidos. Muchas personas piensan que estas dos poderosas fuerzas en nuestra sociedad son incompatibles entre sí. Inclusive hay quienes afirman que existe un “conflicto inherente” entre las dos.



Padre Tad Pacholczyk

– El Padre Tadeusz Pacholczyk hizo su doctorado en neurociencias en la Universidad de Yale y su trabajo post-doctoral en la Universidad de Harvard. Es Sacerdote para la Diócesis de Fall River, Massachusetts, y se desempeña como Director de Educación en el Centro Nacional Católico de Bioética en Philadelphia. The National Catholic Bioethics Center: [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org) Traducción: María Elena Rodríguez

La reacción de la gente al enterarse de que soy científico y sacerdote católico, comúnmente es de sorpresa, con la consiguiente pregunta: ¿cómo le hace? Aunque al observador común puede parecerle que la ciencia y la religión hacen afirmaciones opuestas respecto a una misma cuestión, en realidad no es así.

Ya desde el siglo XVI un reconocido hombre de la Iglesia, el Cardenal Baronio, hacía notar que la religión nos enseña “cómo llegar al cielo, no cómo funciona el cielo”. La ciencia, efectivamente, se ocupa del mundo físico y de “cómo funciona el cielo”. Esta simple pero importante distinción, incorporada más tarde a los escritos de Galileo, nos recuerda que la ciencia y la religión no son objetivamente contrarios entre sí puesto que sus dominios son independientes y muy particulares.

No obstante, el que se desenvuelvan en territorios diferentes no les impide dialogar entre sí, y de hecho deben hacerlo. Albert Einstein ya consideraba esto cuando hizo aquella observación ahora famosa: “La ciencia sin religión es coja; la religión sin ciencia es ciega”. La ciencia y la religión se necesitan mutuamente y deben trabajar juntas. El Papa Juan Pablo II hizo esta misma afirmación fundamental al establecer que “La ciencia puede purificar a la religión del error y la superstición. La

# Querido lector de NCC

Por: Padre Tad Pacholczyk

religión puede purificar a la ciencia de la idolatría y de los falsos absolutos”.

Sin embargo, esta tarea de colaboración y purificación no es fácil en un ambiente de mutua desconfianza, sospecha y hostilidad. Una explicación a estas asperezas es que la forma en que la religión purifica a la ciencia es haciendo insistencia en la primacía de la ética. Pero muchos científicos se niegan a admitir que los intereses de la humanidad se cumplen auténticamente sólo si el conocimiento científico va acompañado de una conciencia recta, y que el filtro de la ética modera la actividad científica.

De hecho, el afamado conflicto entre religión y ciencia resulta ser realmente entre hombres de ciencia y hombres de religión, y no entre la ciencia y la religión mismas. Algunos científicos se sienten incómodos al ver que la ciencia no puede explicar adecuadamente las cuestiones de valor, o dar respuesta a las preguntas que la religión sí responde. De igual forma, algunos hombres de fe se incomodan cuando tienen que aceptar que la Biblia no es, de hecho, un libro de texto científico.

Otra explicación a la desconfianza entre científicos y gente de fe puede ser la mala voluntad generada por las opiniones de una minoría de científicos que insinúan que la religión tiene “una influencia debilitante en el cerebro”, o que los hombres y mujeres de fe que viven de acuerdo al dogma religioso y apegados a principios éticos invariables “no tienen el problema de pensar”. En realidad es de todo lo contrario. La verdadera religión, como la buena ciencia, promueve una racionalidad más mesurada y un razonamiento más ordenado al momento de reflexionar sobre el mundo creado del cual todos somos parte. Los dogmas religiosos y los principios éticos firmes no reprimen el





## ¿Quién es este niño?

pensamiento del estudiante más de lo que lo reprimen las definiciones absolutas y los postulados inalterables de la geometría. Estas reglas de la geometría no “nos evitan el problema de pensar” sino al contrario, nos ayudan a pensar de una manera estructurada, dándonos las categorías precisas y necesarias para adentrarnos más a fondo en esta rama de las matemáticas. De modo similar, el dogma religioso y las sólidas enseñanzas éticas nos proporcionan los fundamentos esenciales que necesitamos para entrar adecuadamente en una argumentación sobre las cuestiones últimas que toda persona enfrenta, cuestiones de propósito, moralidad y destino humano. La religión, en palabras de G. K. Chesterton, “no es un freno al pensamiento, sino una base fértil y una provocación constante del pensamiento”.

Dejar atrás la desconfianza mutua que se ha generado entre científicos y hombres de fe es, por lo tanto, el primer paso para comprender que la ciencia y la religión no son enemigos en lo absoluto. Ambas son capaces no sólo de coexistir en paz sino que, al interior del científico mismo, la religión y la ciencia pueden interconectarse y fortalecerse mutuamente. Quizá quien mejor lo ha expresado fue Johannes Kepler, pionero en astronomía, matemático y primero en calcular las órbitas elípticas de los planetas: “El objetivo principal de todas las investigaciones sobre el mundo exterior debe ser descubrir el orden racional y la armonía que Dios le impuso, y que Él nos reveló en el lenguaje de las matemáticas”.

Esa fuente de racionalidad, que es Dios mismo, debe ser en cada uno de nosotros la fuente que nos llene de asombro continuamente, así como lo fue para Einstein al darse cuenta de que “Lo más incomprensible del universo es que es comprensible”.

**D**urante la temporada Sagrada de Adviento, en Navidad y durante toda la temporada navideña, las Sagradas Escrituras nos señalan el nacimiento que nos transformó para siempre y al mundo entero; Jesucristo nos salvó y nos permite compartir en Su vida ahora y siempre.

Las palabras de una de las formas del Acto Penitencial de la Misa nos ayudan a entender la identidad del niño Jesús: *Señor Jesús, El todo poderoso Dios y Príncipe de la Paz; Señor Jesús, eres el Hijo de Dios y el Hijo de la Virgen María; y Señor Jesús, Tú eres la Palabra hecha carne y el esplendor del Padre.*

Señor Jesús, Tú eres el todopoderoso Dios y el Príncipe de la Paz. Dios envió a su Hijo a este mundo para eliminar los pecados del mundo, para darnos la paz y para enseñarnos a vivir en armonía entre nosotros mismos. Si esta preocupado por el pecado, la culpa o la vergüenza celebra la infinita misericordia y el perdón del Señor en el Sacramento Penitencial. Con su amor, conseguirás la paz que el mundo no ofrece, y si vas por el camino de la amargura y el resentimiento, perdona a los demás como el Señor te ha perdonado. Solo viviendo armónicamente con los demás entenderemos la verdadera paz del Señor. En tiempos cuando el mundo experimenta tanta confusión y es testigo de tanta violencia, debemos encomendar nuestra esperanza en Dios que tiene el poder sobre todo el mal y con nuestra fe renovada, encomendemos nuestras vidas y las necesidades de nuestro mundo a Su cuidado.

Señor Jesús, eres el Hijo de Dios y el Hijo de la Virgen María. Jesucristo es Dios y hombre, Él es el hijo de nuestro Padre eterno, y omnipotente como su padre en el cielo; también es el hijo de la Virgen María, humano como Su madre y como nosotros. Él es el mediador entre Dios y Su pueblo, es por eso que debemos renovar nuestro compromiso, en medio de las demandas cotidianas de la vida, y dedicarle tiempo a Jesús porque Él es Hijo de Dios. Debemos estar convencidos que por Su humanidad Él se identifica con nosotros y con nuestras experiencias, por esa razón, debemos buscarlo, en especial

cuando estamos más necesitados y pedir por la intersección de su Madre para que nos proteja.

Señor Jesús, eres la Palabra hecha carne y el esplendor del Padre. De acuerdo con el plan de Dios, Jesús fue concebido de forma extraordinario por el poder del Espíritu Santo, y al convertirse en carne revela la divinidad de cada una de las personas, proclama y enseña que toda la humanidad debe ser venerada y que todas las personas, sin importar la raza o grupo étnico, religión, cultura o títulos, deben tratarse con dignidad y respeto.

La Navidad significa que toda la vida es sagrada y nos desafía a reflexionar sobre este principio. Estoy sorprendido del incontable número de personas a lo largo de la Diócesis que responden a este llamado. Me siento profundamente inspirado por la ayuda al nonato, al vulnerable, al enfermo y al convaleciente, al prisionero, al hambriento y al desposeído. Además de realizar estos actos de generosidad y compasión, los invito a participar en los eventos que se llevarán a cabo el mes de enero para celebrar lo sagrado de la vida humana, en la Marcha por la Vida en Raleigh el 17 de enero y en la Misa de la Marcha por la Vida en Washington DC el 22 de enero. ¡Ahora más que nunca, nuestro mundo necesita de nuestro ejemplo!

En palabra y obra debemos reflejar nuestra creencia que el Niño Jesús quien es el todopoderoso Dios y el Príncipe de la paz, Hijo de Dios y de la Virgen María, la Palabra hecha carne y el esplendor del Padre. ¡Espero que ustedes y sus familiares estén concientes de Su abundante bendición en esta Temporada Sagrada ahora y siempre!



**S**ue and Jack are planning a trip to Paris. They're disagreeing about how much planning is involved.

## We're going to Paris – let's plan!

**he says**

**Jack says:** Sue and I both have vacation time coming next summer. I'd like to plan a trip to Europe. I've gotten all the books and guides, and I'm ready to set up a detailed itinerary so that we can get the most out of this trip.

## Can't we just 'wing it'?

**she says**

**Sue says:** I'm really excited about our vacation, too. But Jack wants to over-plan every detail. I just want to wander around Paris, finding little cafes and exploring. Can't we just be spontaneous?

**what do they do?**

Congratulations on agreeing to the destination and that one of you is not hauling the other out of his or her comfort zone; the rest is easy! There is actually room for both of your desires to be met because both methods are needed to keep your activities and free time on track; yet not so rigidly on track that it becomes boring or frustrating. Communicating with one another is essential in planning this amazing trip, so that each of you receives joy in seeing and experiencing in Paris what is most important to you both. We can call it 'detailed spontaneity' or 'spontaneous details,' depending on who wins the coin toss. Unless you are millionaires and can afford spur-of-the-moment pricing, a certain amount of pre-planning is essential so that you are not paying outrageous prices for the last remaining seats in the nose-bleed section at a sold-out concert or show. Tom and I were fortunate to be able to live overseas during our early years of marriage and we know firsthand that, without a plan when visiting some of the world's exotic sights, some regrets will surface in latter life. We regretted not seeing some of the "more important" venues in the areas we visited.



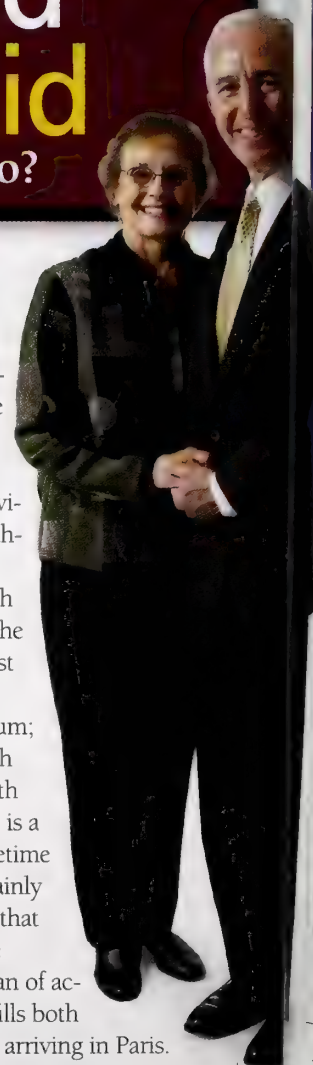
Of course we have rationalized our regrets by saying, "We will go to those places on our next visit!" Sadly, that opportunity doesn't always happen.

Often, the journey planning can be as good or better than the actual event and it gives both of you an opportunity to discuss your desires for this vacation. Realize that there probably will be a time during the trip when compromising will be the order of the day because of weather or health issues. So you might as well start the compromising during the planning phase. Tom and I believe you both have the right idea about your vacation, so long as both

of you can become energized from your time together. Some people are energized through activities, while others are energized through relaxation. The truth for most couples is a happy medium; a little of both can serve both needs. If this is a once-in-a-lifetime trip, we certainly recommend that Jack and Sue develop a plan of action that fulfills both needs before arriving in Paris.



**He said  
She said  
what do they do?**





## How can I afford to send my kids to college?

**W**hether it's in your wallet, it's nearly always on your mind. Money — and how to manage it — is a topic many of us wrestle with daily. We turned to Ted Zale, a veteran financial adviser, for some practical advice during an unpredictable time. Here's a tip that can help you today:

► OK, so even some people with a solid fiscal foundation still have sweaty palms. Why? It has something to do with that 5-year-old spooning Cheerios into his mouth at the kitchen table. Some day, he's going to college. And some day is sooner than you think. Never fear, according to Zale, who suggests purchasing a 529 college savings plan, an account that grows tax free to help parents pay for college. Nearly every state has a 529 plan and you don't have to be a resident to invest. The idea is simple: Parents and grandparents contribute to the 529, which is invested in the market and — though

Facing the new economic



## CRISIS\$

there is risk — grows over the years into a tidy sum to crack open when junior hits campus. The money is taxed when it's withdrawn (usually at the student's lower tax bracket). "You pay at the end which allows the money to compound faster," Zale said. The 529 plan can be used for vocational education or transferred to another family member if the student doesn't attend college.

A certain amount of planning is inevitable, so taking a break from a well-planned trip to enjoy a leisurely stroll along the Champs-Élysées and a lunch at a sidewalk café can add spice to your cake.

An important tip to remember: It is not about 'my' vacation, it is about 'our' vacation — you, me and God. In marriage, God calls us to lift up our partners and to make our spouses the most important person in the relationship. When we focus on satisfying our spouses' desires, we are most often surprised at how our own desires are satisfied also. Go in the Spirit of love like a young bride loves her spouse and see what exciting memories the two of you can make. Bon voyage!

— Tom and JoAnne Fogle

## dealing with disaster how to help your child cope



**You want to be their source of information when they are worried.**

**R**ows of Boys Scouts sitting in high-school bleachers call up images of award ceremonies. But last summer, after a tornado ripped through an Iowa Boy Scout camp and killed four teenagers, the bleachers held rows of survivors. Anguished parents had gathered in a community center while officials determined whether each child had been taken to the morgue, one of several hospitals or the school. Fourteen-year-old Trevor Ruffcom, helping out after the tornado, told a reporter from the *Omaha World-Herald*, "Sights I've seen, I'm never going to forget." As parents, there is a longing to protect our children from anything unpleasant: vaccinations that hurt, children who tease them, unrequited love. But, most of all, we want to protect them from death and disaster. What should parents say when these images scroll across the TV or leap out from the newspaper?

### "Don't be afraid; just believe" (Mark 5:36).

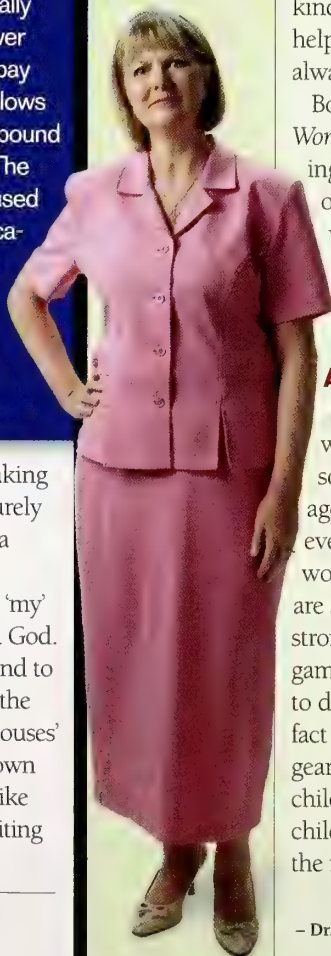
One of the most horrifying aspects of the Iowa tornado was that the children were at a camp, separated from their parents. We can never promise our children that we'll always be there in life-threatening situations. We don't have that kind of control — as much as we long for it. But we can help our children grow in a relationship with God, who will always be there for them.

Boy Scout Thomas White told staff writers from the *Omaha World-Herald* that he was nearly hit by a log and "I was praying, saying, 'Don't let me get sucked up.' My glasses came off, and I grabbed them. I didn't want to die. Surprisingly, I was calm — but the adrenaline was going." Thomas' story shows that our bodies can be reacting with fear even as our communication with God through prayer helps maintain calm.

### Address their concerns.

If you don't answer children's questions, then they will think some topics are off limits. You want to be their source of information when they are worried. Take their ages into account when giving details. Let them know these events don't happen very often. Explain what your family would do in a similar situation. For example, "Tornadoes are scary because the wind is so strong, but our house has a strong basement and so we go down there, say a prayer, play games and read. "Review life-saving strategies, such as what to do if a smoke detector goes off, in a serious but matter-of-fact way. Children sometimes try to hide from a fire and the gear of a firefighter sometimes looks frightening to a young child. Make sure the lines of communication are open so that children discuss their fears as they learn of different events in the news.

— Dr. Cathleen McGreal





**P**ayer has power. How good it is to hear someone say, "I am praying for you!" While people of faith have known for thousands of years the power of prayer, even modern skeptics are beginning to change their outlook. Studies are showing the positive effects of prayer – both for the individual who prays, and for the recipient of the prayers. Why are our prayers powerful? Because of Jesus! Christians, by their baptism, are united to Jesus Christ who sits at the right hand of the Father where He intercedes for us. (Rom 8:34) He is our High Priest who offered Himself on the cross for our salvation. His priesthood is eternal. "Therefore, He is always able to save those who approach God through Him, since He lives forever to make intercession for them." (Heb 7:24) Jesus enables our prayers to have effect because we share in His priesthood through baptism. United to the one High Priest, we intercede with Him for others.

It is great to think of Jesus praying for each of us at every moment. Jesus wants each person to receive salvation. He desires that we have a thirst and hunger for the salvation of others, too. The love and desire for our salvation is at the heart of Christ's intercession for us. During His ministry, Jesus spent all night in prayer. (Mark 1:35, 6:46) He prayed for the sick (Luke 4:40), for the possessed (Luke 4:41), for His disciples (John 17), for Simon Peter in a special way (Luke 22:31-32), and for all who would believe. Jesus' prayer of intercession was an extension of His very self in an offering of love. The Father wants us each to be just like Jesus in our own unique way. So, the Father wants us to learn to intercede – to pray on behalf of others – like Jesus did. As we pray for other's needs, we grow less selfish and become more like Jesus. We grow in our awareness of the interconnectedness of the human family and that our prayers of love have the power to help others because of the goodness and mercy of God.

Jesus said, "Amen, amen, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in my name He will give you. ... ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete." (John 16:23-24) God wants us to intercede for each other so that we will be filled with joy.

So how do we intercede for each other? If you know how to ask for help, it is not hard.

The saints of the Church offer great examples of the constancy, perseverance, faith, hope and passionate benevolence that are necessary ingredients for powerful intercession. Take St. Rita for example.

As a young woman, Rita wanted to enter a

## Praying for others

why do we do it?  
how do we do it?

convent and dedicate her life to God and to intercessory prayer. Her mom and dad were against it. They wanted her to get married. Rita was obedient to them. What a great example of keeping the Fourth Commandment! Unfortunately for her, Mom and Dad were no matchmakers. She obeyed them and married a man who was an abusive drunk. With kindness and love, Rita continued to witness to her husband the way of Christ. They were blessed with two boys, but they grew up more like their dad than their mom. Rita never lost her faith, and increased her prayers for her husband and her two sons. She asked God to give them faith and convert their hearts so that they would live at peace with God and others. After 18 years of marriage, and countless prayers offered by Rita, her husband did convert!

Rita was so happy, but before she could embark on a new life with her husband, he was killed. Her two sons were bent on plans of revenge. Rita then turned to God and prayed that God would keep them from sin, and if that meant taking their lives, so be it. Well, both of them caught an illness that eventually did take their lives. While they were sick, they both repented of their desire for vengeance and reconciled with God. They died very peacefully with their own mother taking care of them. Rita was eventually led by God to join the

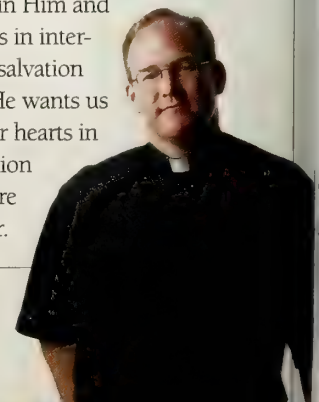
convent and spend the rest of her life praying for others and

doing penance for her sins and the sins of humanity.

At the end of her life, she continued to pray for others, especially for her husband and two sons who had died long before. She asked God to bring them to heaven and even asked for a special favor – some sign that would help her know they were with the Lord. In the middle of winter, St. Rita knew God would give her a sign. She told one of her relatives to go and see if a rose had bloomed. The sister thought she might be delirious, but went and investigated. To her great surprise and joy discovered a rose shooting up from the snow at Rita's home. Rita smiled and then asked her relative for two figs from the fig tree in her garden – another impossible request that was granted. Rita died in peace, and many miracles happened and continue to occur to this day through her intercession.

So now it is our turn! The Lord is counting on us to join Him and countless saints in interceding for the salvation of all people. He wants us to pour out our hearts in faith and in union with Him before God the Father.

– Father Bill  
Ashbaugh





## CCHD Grants Given to Nine Organizations

►► The Diocese of Raleigh presented its 2008 Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) local grants to six community-based organizations at its annual award dinner on October 30th at Saint Michael the Archangel Church in Cary. In addition to the local recipients, three eastern North Carolina organizations received national CCHD grants, for a total of \$104,000.

Funding for national and local grants comes from the annual Catholic Campaign for Human Development collection which takes place in parishes across the country in November. Since 1970, CCHD has funded community and economic development programs that build strong communities through participation of low-income leaders and a focus on the roots of poverty. In the last 32 years, parishioners in the Diocese of Raleigh have contributed more than \$1.2 million dollars.

The dinner was attended by representatives of the organizations and the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh. The main speaker for the evening was Mr. Dennis Gaddy, Director of Community Success Initiative, one of this year's National CCHD Grant Recipients.

In his talk to the gathering, Bishop Burbidge remarked that with so many troubling events in the news, "I needed this night to hear about the good things... the many ways God shows His presence in our lives." He thanked the grant and award recipients for their example and witness, noting the coincidence that this work, which demonstrates such regard for justice and the dignity of the poor and vulnerable in our society, should be recognized during Respect Life Month. "Your work reinforces our Catholic conviction that all life is from God," the Bishop said, "that all life is sacred, and all persons, without exception, must be treated with dignity and respect."

In addition to the awarding of the grants, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh presented its annual John J. Carey Award to Charles Giordano and James Scharenbrock of St. Brendan the Navigator Church in Shallotte, NC. Eight years ago, the men started selling plants they had raised from seedlings in their homes to benefit St. Brendan's Loaves and Fishes program to feed the poor. Their operation has grown to the point where they have a greenhouse and support not only programs through St. Brendan's but through various faith communities in Brunswick County, as well as Habitat for Humanity. Last year Giordano and Scharenbrock raised more than \$20,000 for the poor.

### Local recipients announced at the Oct. 30 dinner were:

- **Faith Community Support Circle Program – Wake County \$5,000;**
- **Voces Latinas Inc. – Wilmington \$5,000;**
- **Our Children's Place – statewide \$6,000;**
- **Wake Interfaith Hospitality Neighborhood – Wake County \$6,000;**
- **St. Ann's Neighborhood Center – Fayetteville \$5,000;**
- **Catholic Charities Employment Assistance Program – Fayetteville \$2,000.**



Bishop Michael F. Burbidge presents CCHD's annual John J. Carey Award to Charles Giordano and James Scharenbrock of St. Brendan the Navigator Church in Shallotte. Fr. Robert Ippolito, M.S., pastor of St. Brendan, looks on.

### The three national recipients were:

#### ► **Community Success Initiative – Raleigh \$25,000**

It was founded in 2004 to create communities where people who have been incarcerated discover their potential, set worthy goals for their lives, and take action in a positive way. The organization endeavors to help these individuals of personal growth and "success" principles, inspiring others to reach their potential, and helping to build vibrant and healthy communities.

#### ► **NC Latino Coalition – statewide \$30,000**

A nonpartisan, multi-issue network of organizations dedicated to building relational power among grassroots Latino leaders. We fulfill our goals by identifying, developing and training grassroots leaders, strengthening institutions throughout the provision of technical assistance, and addressing concerns through collective public action.

#### ► **Metro Durham Sponsors/ Durham CAN – Durham**

**\$35,000** It's a grassroots, faith-based organization working in Durham, which brings together 25 dues paying Congregations from diverse faith traditions to address the issues of economics and social justice.

## St. Michael's Girls' Volleyball Team Has Perfect Season

►► St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School's girls volleyball team (grades 6-8) went 17-0 this season. In addition to winning the Diocesan conference championship, the team also won the Joe Uniacke Memorial Volleyball Tournament, held Oct. 11 at the Triangle Volleyball Club. This tournament included 15 public and private schools, all playing to honor the coaching dedication of the late Joe Uniacke. All money earned from the tournament went to funding a volleyball scholarship in Joe's name. At this tournament, two St. Michael eighth graders, Marie DeRusso and Kelly Majewski, were named to the All-Tournament Team and St. Michael coaches Ken Welsh and Greg Preston were named "The Kindest Coaches."







### CGHS Welcomes "BioBus"

▶▶ On Oct. 28, Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh welcomed a 1989 BlueBird school bus that travels the country with a crew of four and is fueled by waste fryer grease from restaurants. Known as the BioBus, it is part of a nonprofit organization

called BioTour ([www.biotour.org](http://www.biotour.org)). Their mission is to travel the country — visiting events, colleges and schools — to promote living a sustainable lifestyle. Sustainability is the idea and practice of living in balance with life on the planet — to use what we need, while preserving what the planet offers for future life.

The BioBus was invited to the school by Barbara Gamblin, a Cardinal Gibbons science teacher. Students visited the BioBus during their science classes and learned about renewable energy technology projects and practices in communities across the country. The crew highlights topics concerning peak oil, environmental degradation of natural resources and climate change. As part of raising awareness of environmental issues, Father Scott McCue, Assistant Principal for Spiritual Life, planned a Mass on Oct. 23 that focused on caring for God's creation. Social Justice classes prepared devotionals.

### Ministries Thank Diocesan Faithful for Support

▶▶ Contributions by the faithful of the Diocese of Raleigh to special collections were gratefully acknowledged recently: Catholic Relief Services — \$14,391 for natural disaster relief to Southeast Asia; the Apostolic Nunciature of the United States — \$82,449.51 for the annual Peter's Pence collection.



## Saint Raphael Catholic School

Academic excellence in the Jesuit Tradition.

SACS accredited and with a diverse, experienced faculty, we welcome all families with children in kindergarten through eighth grade.

5815 Falls of Neuse Rd, Raleigh 865-5750

[www.saintraphael.org](http://www.saintraphael.org)

## STOCK GIFTS

The Catholic Center will be closed  
December 24 through January 4

Our website contains the necessary information to make a stock donation to the Diocese of Raleigh. Our stock donation instruction form (including our account number) is available at:

[www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org)

Once on the website homepage,  
select "Philanthropy."

The stock donation form is located in  
the "Other Ways to Give" section of the  
"Philanthropy Overview."

Please fully complete the two-page form and provide it  
directly to your broker to execute your transaction.  
We can not execute transactions on your behalf.  
In addition, please send a copy of the completed form  
to the Diocese at the address listed on the form.

If you have any questions during the time we are closed,  
please leave a message at:  
(919) 821-9722 • [lambert@raldioc.org](mailto:lambert@raldioc.org)  
Messages will be retrieved periodically.

Thank You and Happy Holidays!

## Cathedral School

At Cathedral School: We Love God, Learning and Each Other



Please join us on  
**January 27, 2009**  
for our  
**Catholic Schools Week**  
**Open House Tour**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

and view the *Cathedral Experience!*

(Information on the hour, tours on the half hour)

204 Hillsborough Street Raleigh, NC 27603 • (919) 832-4711  
[williamson@cathedral-school.net](mailto:williamson@cathedral-school.net) • [www.cathedral-school.net](http://www.cathedral-school.net)





## Considering a Retirement Community?

We've got two of the finest.

Whether you embrace the timeless, classic style of **Pine Knoll** or the gated, resort style of **Belle Meade**, you will find your future begins with St. Joseph of the Pines.

Located in the relaxing resort area of Southern Pines, both communities have a chapel and offer an array of floor plans along with excellent services and amenities.



## TWO Continuing Care Retirement Communities



ST JOSEPH OF THE PINES  
HEALTH SYSTEM  
*Life. Care.*

100 Waters Drive, Southern Pines, NC 28387

**910-246-1008**



**Nationally Accredited**



# get ignited!

**February 13-14, 2009**  
**Raleigh Convention Center**

Bring a friend and come hear  
these dynamic Catholic speakers

## Immaculée Ilibagiza

Rwandan author of Left to Tell

*"Story of Faith, Hope and Forgiveness"*

## Fr. Larry Richards

The Reason For Our Hope Foundation

*"The Truth"*

## Tim Staples

Catholic Answers Apologist

*"Catholics and the Culture War"*

## Joseph Pearce

Professor of Literature at Ave Maria College

*"The Evangelizing Power of Beauty"*

**FREE Friday evening workshop!**  
**"Discover the Catholic Church" 7-9:30pm**  
**No registration required**

**Full Program Saturday including Lunch! 8:30am-6pm**

**Early Registration Discount:**  
**Adults \$30, Students \$15, Groups of 5 or more \$20**

**Gift Certificates Available!**



**Vigil Mass celebrated by**  
**Bishop Michael F. Burbidge**

*Bringing to light the truth of the teachings of the Catholic Church and igniting in our hearts a love for our Faith*

For complete details and online registration, visit:

**[www.IgnitedByTruth.com](http://www.IgnitedByTruth.com)**





school for St. Catherine's, and it opened in 1944.

The parishes and their schools grew side by side until, in 1978, both parish councils voted to merge into one parish, St. Elizabeth/St. Catherine. By 1989, continued growth required a new church, and Holy Family Parish was officially born on

## Harbor of Catholic Hospitality

**Holy Family, Elizabeth City**

**W**hen the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge made his first pastoral visit to Holy Family in Elizabeth City, Pastor and Dean of the Albemarle

Deanery Father Jim Buchholz joked that the deanery was "the farthest in the Diocese from Raleigh, but the closest to Rome."

Located in the extreme northeastern part of the state, Holy Family serves Catholics in five counties where the "local" media and many of the people's jobs are in Virginia.

In the nineteenth century, Elizabeth City, nicknamed the "Harbor of Hospitality," was the site of thriving lumber and oyster industries, but like most of North Carolina, home to very few Catholics. The first Mass wasn't celebrated there until 1915, when a Canadian priest, Father John Doherty, on his way to retirement in Florida, said Mass in his hotel room. Father (later Msgr.) Doherty stayed until the parish church, not surprisingly named St. Elizabeth, was dedicated on July 21, 1928 by Bishop William J. Hafey.

In 1940, the Edmundite Fathers, missionaries headquar-

tered in Selma, Alabama, with a special interest in evangelizing African Americans, looked towards the Diocese of Raleigh. After negotiations with Bishop Eugene J. McGuinness, Father William J. Lepage, S.S.E., traveled to Elizabeth City and moved into the St. Elizabeth rectory with Pastor Father Michael Carey. In a year's time the Edmundites had purchased land on which was built the "colored" Catholic Church, a small red brick structure, called St. Catherine's and staffed by Father Lepage and an assistant. The Holy Union Sisters of Fall River, Massachusetts, agreed to staff a grammar



January 1, 1990.

In recent years

Holy Family has added a family

life center with a gym, industrial kitchen and classrooms, and built a church for its mission in Maple, NC, St. Katharine Drexel. Fr. Buchholz, a native of Southern Pines, NC, has been Pastor for six years. He cites the diversity of his congregation, and praises his parishioners: "Almost all the work of the parish and its maintenance is done by volunteers," he says. He also praises Father Francisco Javier-Gonzalez – "Father Chesco" – an invaluable associate in faith formation for the growing Hispanic population at both Holy Family and St. Katharine Drexel, as well as the Sisters of Guadalupe who serve throughout the Albemarle Deanery.

### resource

**Holy Family  
Elizabeth City, NC**

1453 North  
Road Street  
Elizabeth City,  
N.C. 27909

252.338.2521



## things to do:

**Priesthood Discernment Group,** Dec. 20, 9 a.m. – noon at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 219 Edenton Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27603. Adult Catholic men between the ages of 17-48 discerning a possible call to Priesthood are invited to the Priesthood Discernment Group meetings held on the third Saturday of each month. If you are just beginning to contemplate a vocation or are more serious about a call to Priesthood, please consider attending this group. The Priesthood Discernment Group provides a fraternal environment in which to discuss your discernment of a possible call to Priesthood with other men who are also examining the call. The group discusses issues central to the call and does so within the context of prayer, presentations, and discussion. The morning begins with Mass. Coffee and doughnuts will be available in the Office of Vocations (two doors down from the Cathedral) after Mass. Morning Prayer, a discussion/presentation about discernment/Priesthood, Daytime Prayer and lunch follow. Next discernment group is Jan. 17, 2009, same time, same place. For more information, contact the Vocations Office, 919.832.6279.

**Mass for Life,** St. Joseph Church, Raleigh, 8 a.m. **Annual NC March for Life,** Jan. 17, 1 p.m., downtown Raleigh.

**North Carolina Catholics Mass for Life, Washington, D.C., Jan. 22, 2009.** Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, Diocese of Raleigh, and Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Diocese of Charlotte, will celebrate a Mass for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. at 11:30 a.m., followed by participation in the National March for Life.

**Vocations Prayer Group for Women,** Dec. 18, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 219 Edenton Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27603. Single Catholic women between the ages of 17-45 who are committed to praying for vocations, growing in holiness while in the midst of the world, and discerning the call of Christ are invited to the Vocations Prayer Group for Women. Thursday evening meetings will begin in Sacred Heart Cathedral with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7 p.m. followed by Benediction. At 8 p.m. the group will move to the Office of Vocations for fellowship and discussions. Meetings should end by 9 pm. Next Vocations Prayer Group for Women Jan. 15, 2009, same time and place.

### Upcoming events at Avila Retreat Center

711 Mason Road, Durham 27712. To register or for more information, call 919.477.1285.

►► **"You: God's Unfinished Story":** Jan. 13, 2009, 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Jan. 13, 2009, 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Ask someone who they are and they will tell you a story. Narrative is how we connect our experiences in order to "make Sense" of our lives. In this retreat each of us will have an opportunity to reflect upon 1. our own story, 2. the story of God, as revealed through Jesus Christ and 3. how these two narratives work together to form the basis of our individual and communal journeys. Presenter: Jimmy weaver is an ordained Elder in the North Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, where he served churches in urban and rural settings for over 20 years. Donation: \$30.

►► **Weekend for Engaged Couples,** Jan. 16-18, 2009, Fri. 7 p.m. – Sun. noon. Contact Linda Bedo, Marriage Preparation and Enrichment consultant, Diocese of Raleigh: 919.821.9753.

►► **Charismatic Retreat,** Jan. 23-25, 2009. Frid. 7 p.m. – Sun. 11 a.m. Charismatic Renewal is beyond a movement. It is a way of life. It is what Jesus is about in the life of the Church: active, alive, vibrant. The spirit of Jesus continues to heal, forgive, restore and renew. Presenter: Fr. Patsy laquinta, Pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish, Fairmont, WV. Donation: \$130.



Contact Fr. Ned Shlesinger, vocations@raldioc.org.

**Online Catechist Formation Courses from the Univ. of Notre Dame** begin Jan. 5, 2009, and run through February. All courses are for adult faith formation and catechist certification. January courses include: The RCIA: Can We Get the Right Right?; The Seven Storey Mountain by Thomas Merton; Women and Catholicism in the U.S.; Youth Ministry 101; The American Catholic Experience; Biblical Literary Forms; Catholic Prayer – The Lord's Prayer; the Hail Mary, and the Doxology; Jesus Christ – Yesterday and Today; Liturgy: A Guide for the Perplexed; The Old Testament – The Prophets; On Christian Marriage; The Papacy; Intro to the Catholic Faith; The Gospel of John – The Book of Glory; and The Letters of St. Paul. Diocese of Raleigh participants receive a 40 percent discount on courses. To learn more about course descriptions, required texts and register, go to <http://STEP.ND.EDU>. Registration deadline is Dec. 29.

**Cycle 1 of Online Catechist Formation Courses from the Univ. of Dayton.** Cycle 1 runs Jan. 11 - Feb. 14, 2009. All courses are for adult faith formation and catechist certification. Courses this cycle include: Catholic Beliefs; Catholic Social Teaching 1; Church History 1; Conscience; Designing a Parish Catechetical Plan; Digital Catechesis; Ecclesiology – The Beginnings of the Church; Ecumenism; Images of Jesus; Intro to Catechesis; Intro to Liturgy; Our Hearts Were Burning; Overview of the GDC & NDC; Pastoral and Evangelizing Communication; Poverty in the U.S. and around the World; Sacraments; Scripture – Intro, OT & NT; Spirituality & Inclusive Faith Communities; and Survey of Catholic Doctrine. Cost: \$40. Register at <http://VLC.UDAYTON.EDU>. Registration deadline is Jan. 7.

**Bishop's Lecture Series,** Jan. 9, 2009, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. at St. Peter Catholic Church, 2700 E. Fourth St., Greenville, N.C. 27858. Dr. Robert Hamboberger will discuss "Devaluing Life and Abortion." (Second in three-part series.)

**Martin Luther King Mass of Unity,** Jan. 19, 2009, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

celebrating. Luncheon will follow in the parish hall. Cost for luncheon is \$10 per person.

**Search for Christian Maturity #154,** Feb. 6-8, 2009, Short Journey Center, 2323 Cleveland Road, Smithfield, N.C. 27577. Search is a weekend retreat for 11th – 12th grade youth. Activities encourage self-discovery and reflection on relationships with others and with God. This is a peer-led retreat as the Search "team" is made up of other teens. These past Searchers model leadership, faith sharing, and ministry with their peers. Adults in youth ministry also attend and participate in Search. Searches usually fill up quickly, so sign up for the earliest date possible to ensure yourself a space. Cost: \$105 youth/adults. Next date: March 20-22, 2009. For more information, contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or [Hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:Hagarty@raldioc.org).

**Challenge Retreat,** Feb. 6-7 and Feb. 20-21. Challenge is a Friday-Saturday overnight retreat for grades 6-8. The retreat focuses on community building, self-esteem, social justice, Scripture, and relationships with friends, family, and Jesus. We will be offering this retreat at multiple sites on two different weekends, one in each deanery and two in Raleigh. Cost: \$40 youth/adults. For the location nearest you, contact Mike Hagarty, 919.821.9770 or [Hagarty@raldioc.org](mailto:Hagarty@raldioc.org) or check the Diocesan Web site, [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org).

**Sisters' Jubilee Celebration,** Feb. 7, 2009, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. The Sisters of the Diocese of Raleigh will celebrate anniversaries of religious profession on Sat., Feb. 7, 2009. A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated by the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 11 a.m. A reception will follow in the Clarion Hotel, Hillsborough Street. All are invited.

**Natural Family Planning Classes.** Learn about your faith while discovering a system of fertility awareness that is 99% effective, safe, healthy and morally acceptable. Class 1 of 3 starts on Sat., Jan. 31st from 12-2:30 pm at St. Bernadette's in Fuquay-Varina. Course & Materials fee \$135. Register now and call David & Betsy Shamine at 919.762.1192 or Teri & Sal Sedito at 919.469.4226.





## The Lord of Miracles Venerated In Chapel Hill

► On Oct. 27, a Mass and procession at St. Thomas More Church in Chapel Hill honored *El Señor de los Milagros* – The Lord of Miracles. The Lord of Miracles is a centuries-old painting on the wall of a church in Lima, Peru. The celebration in that country lasts almost the entire month of October. In fact, October is known in Lima as *el mes morado*, the purple month, after the purple robes worn by societies of men and women devoted to the icon.

According to tradition, in 1651 an Angolan slave who had converted to Catholicism painted a picture of Christ on the cross on the wall of a building in the outskirts of Lima, and people began gathering to pray there. Four years later, an earthquake struck the city, and the entire building collapsed – except for the wall adorned with the painting. After that, more and more people, particularly the descendants of slaves, began to worship at the site.

This concerned both the Church and Spanish authorities and in 1671 the image was ordered destroyed. According to legend, workers were not able to do so, and officials eventually



relented and built a church on the site – the church of *Las Nazarenas*. In the centuries that have followed, the image has repeatedly survived earthquakes that devastated much of the city.

In Chapel Hill, Father Marcos Leon celebrated Mass with a replica of *El Señor de los Milagros* in the sanctuary. Then devotees of the icon, dressed in purple robes, carried a *retablo*, a raised platform with images of Our Lord and Mary, around the church property, as women participants incensed the images. “The incense,” Father Leon

explained, “symbolizes our prayers going to heaven.”

Afterwards, the worshippers gathered for food specific to the celebration: *turrón* (a sweet layered pastry), *anticuchos* (grilled meat on skewers), and *picaones* (sweet fritters made with pumpkin or squash).





# use your **IRA** as never before: to make a **gift** to the **Catholic Church**

The Tax Extenders and Alternative Minimum Tax Relief Act of 2008 offers a welcome incentive to donors who want to use the money in their IRAs to make charitable gifts.

**How the Law Works:** The IRA rollover provision allows charitable distributions of up to \$100,000 from an IRA or a Roth IRA to be excluded from your gross income. In addition, the amount rolled over will count against a donor's minimum distribution requirement. As in previous versions of IRA rollover legislation, there is no federal income tax deduction available for these contributions in addition to their exclusion from income.

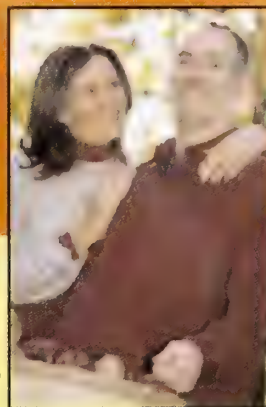
**How to Make a Gift:** Contact your IRA custodian to transfer your desired gift amount to the Catholic Church.

## Example On How The Law Works:

Pat, aged 80, has \$450,000 in an IRA and has pledged to give \$75,000 to her church this year. If Pat transfers \$75,000 from the IRA, she will avoid paying income tax on that amount. She cannot, however, claim a charitable deduction—it is a pure "wash." Pat has found an easy way to benefit her church without tax complications. If she desires, Pat could give more than \$100,000 because the legislation allows a maximum \$100,000 gift in both the 2008 and 2009 tax years. If her spouse has an IRA and is 70-1/2 or older, he can also give up to \$100,000 each year.

You may contribute funds this way if:

- You are age 70-1/2 or older
- The gift is \$100,000 or less each year
- You make the gift on or before Dec. 31, 2009
- You transfer funds directly from an IRA or Rollover IRA to the charity
- You transfer the gift outright to one or more public charities; rollovers to a planned gift, such as a gift annuity or a charitable remainder trust, do not qualify.



For more information or to receive a sample letter to send to your IRA administrator, please call the Office of Stewardship & Development at (919) 821-9721 or send an email to: [mike.pedley@raldioc.org](mailto:mike.pedley@raldioc.org)  
You may also write to: Diocese of Raleigh  
715 Nazareth St. Raleigh, NC 27606.

Visit our Web Site: [www.dioceseofraleigh.org](http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org) • then click on the Philanthropy link.

## Live the life you love.

When you're in control, opportunities abound. At Pennybyrn at Maryfield, you're free to create a lifestyle that's inspiring, stimulating and filled with exciting new opportunities—in a **new community bundled with years of credibility**. It's a carefree, comfortable approach to healthy retirement living where you can continue to make memories, as well as a splash!

Visit us today, or call (336) 821-4050  
or toll-free (866) 627-9343.



 **PENNYBYRN**  
at MARYFIELD  
A Retirement Living Community

Sponsored by the Sisters of the Poor Servants  
of the Mother of God

[www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com](http://www.PennybyrnAtMaryfield.com)

109 Penny Road, High Point, NC 27260



MAG/NCC/10-08





# IN THE FOOTSTEPS

OF THE TARHEEL APOSTLES

CONGRATULATIONS TO  
MSGR. HADDEN

&

MSGR. MOESLEIN  
ON THEIR FIFTY YEARS  
OF PRIESTLY SERVICE IN

THE DIOCESE OF  
RALEIGH.

ORDINATION DATE:

DECEMBER 20, 1958

*Msgr. Moeslein*

*Msgr. Hadden*

ARE YOU CALLED TO FOLLOW "IN THE  
FOOTSTEPS OF THE TARHEEL APOSTLES?"

Contact Father Ned Shlesinger 919.832.6280 / [vocations@raldioc.org](mailto:vocations@raldioc.org)

Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh

[www.raleighvocations.org](http://www.raleighvocations.org)



December 2008



**NC***Catholics*

715 Nazareth St.  
Raleigh, NC 27606

Online: [www.DioceseofRaleigh.org](http://www.DioceseofRaleigh.org)  
[www.NCCatholics.org](http://www.NCCatholics.org)



please recycle



\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27514

95219

P 13 1252

UNC CHAPEL HILL SERIALS DEPARTMENT 35

CB# 3938 DAVIS LIBRARY

CHAPEL HILL NC 27514























